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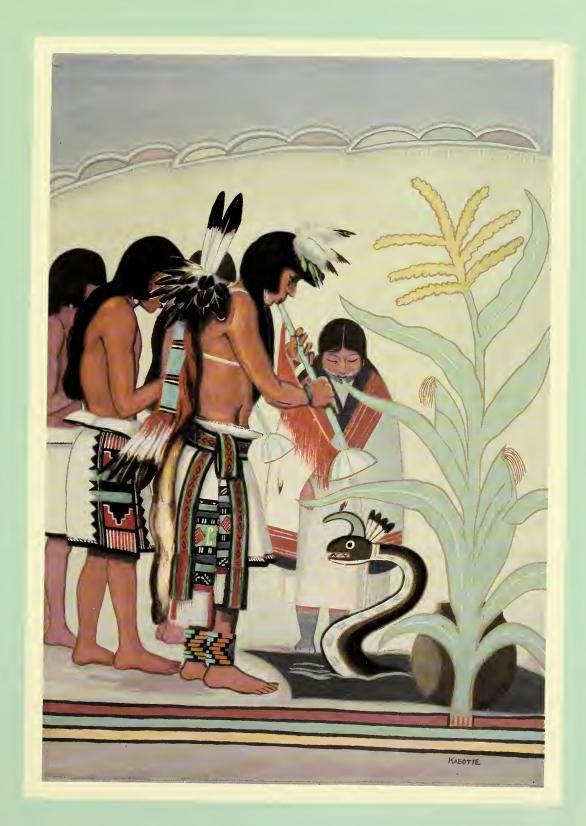
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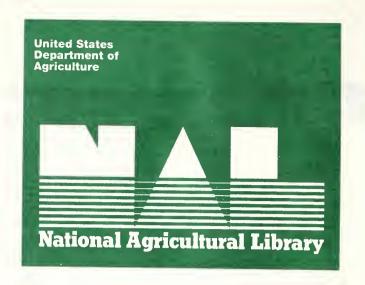
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Native American Programs

October 1992

Guide to USDA Programs for Native Americans





The following explanation, by the artist, of the story behind this painting was taken from *When the Rainbow Touches Down* by Tryntje Van Ness Seymore, published by the Heard Museum.

Mr. Kabotie explains, "This is my own image of what a Flute Dance represents." The dance is held every other August, in odd-numbered years, alternating with the Snake Dance in even-numbered years. A calm, elegant ceremony, the Flute Dance is done by members of the Blue Flute society and the Gray Flute society and presents the prayers of the people for rain and a bountiful harvest. The final day of the ceremony includes a private observance at a spring and a public procession in the plaza which reenacts the journeys said to have been made by the Flute societies to the Hopi mesas. "According to Hopi belief," Kabotie says, "the Flute people come from Palatkwapi, down south, and down there the water serpent comes like this. These are the Flute society members at the spring, and this is the water serpent. At the center is one of the Flute Dance maidens—that is the way they dress."

The maiden appears by the spring with other members as she would during the ceremony. She wears over a white dress a maiden's shawl, with black and red borders. Her chin and legs are painted gray. The men alongside play reed flutes. They wear ceremonial kilts embroidered with symbols of clouds and falling rain. Their long hair falls down over their backs. The man in front wears a special shield on his back. He wears a Hopi belt and a brocaded ceremonial sash with a fox pelt tucked in at the back and hanging down.

Kabotic combines abstract symbolic elements with realistic figures in this painting. The water serpent rises from the water, the geometric cloud is above and the rain falls over the heads of the society members, the corn stalk shows to the right with ripe ears cradled in its leaves, and the border is rainbow colored.

Kabotie says, "The corn represents the life of the people. Above are clouds and rain. The shield on the flute player's back is called pavayoykyasi—it means water symbols. It is a piece of canvas stretched on a frame, a rectangle, with red hair along the sides, and eagle feathers. The whole thing represents water symbols, rain symbols, rain place." The water serpent is one of the powerful Hopi deities, said by some to be large enough to cause an earthquake when it shifts its body.

Our special thanks to the Kabotie family, who graciously granted the use of the painting and to Mr. Mario Klimiades of the Heard Museum.

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United States Department of Agriculture

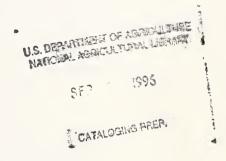
Office of Public Affairs

Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

Native American Programs

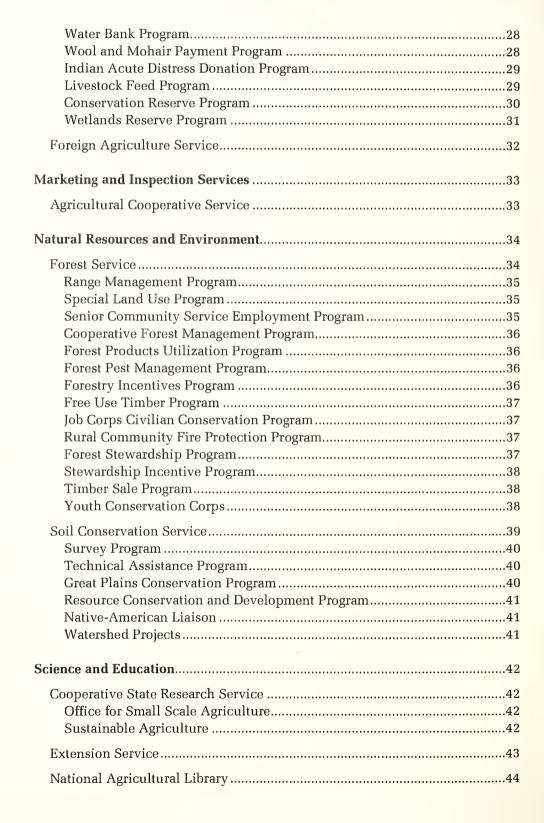
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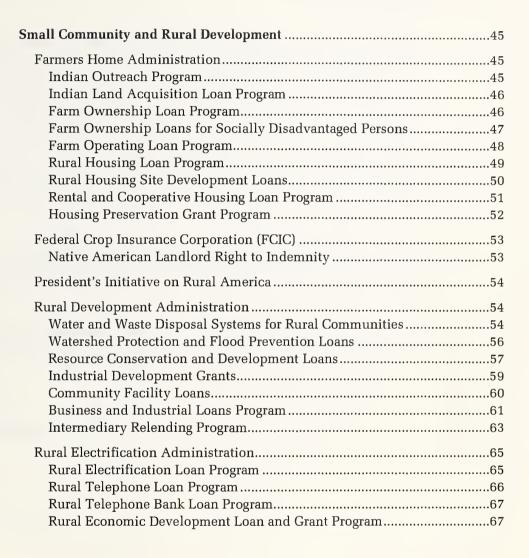
Guide to USDA Programs for Native Americans



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Introduction

These past few months have seen President Bush designate 1992 as the "Year of the American Indian," as well as issue an Indian Policy Statement in which he reaffirmed the government-to-government relationship between Indian tribes and the Federal Government. This reaffirmation, along with this year's emphasis on the cultural richness of the American Indian and Alaska Native peoples, is in the same spirit with which this publication is being offered. Its purpose is to provide a reference for American Indian and Alaska Native tribal leaders, planners, community leaders, teachers, counselors, and individuals, as well as those who work with Native Americans on the numerous USDA programs available. (For the purposes of this publication, the term "Indian" or "Native American" will mean American Indian and Alaska Native peoples.)

This booklet provides information on USDA program benefits and identifies the necessary contacts for finding out more information, or for taking advantage of each program. It is sincerely hoped that this will provide a valuable reference and that it will be used often.

Unless the program is designated specifically for the benefit of Native Americans, all USDA programs are available without regard to race, creed, color, sex, or national origin.

James Pace, Director Native American Programs

Coordination and Information Services



Office of Intergovernmental Affairs Native American Programs

Nature of Programs: These programs involve the departmentwide coordination of the services of Federal and State agencies with American Indians and related peoples. Coordination of Native American Programs is in the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs because of the government-to-government relationship between Indian tribes and the Federal Government. This relationship is the cornerstone of the Federal Government's policy of fostering tribal self-government and self-determination.

This government-to-government relationship is the result of sovereign and independent tribal governments being incorporated into the fabric of the United States. Indian tribes are becoming what the courts have come to refer to as quasi-sovereign domestic dependent nations. In effect, some 500 tribal governments in the 50 States and including the tribal villages of Alaska stand alongside the other government units that form this Republic.

The USDA Director of Native American Programs serves as the Department's primary contact for the tribal governments and their members. The director answers to the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, who in turn answers to the Director of Public Affairs, part of the staff of the Secretary of Agriculture. This delegation of authority from the Secretary is required by the fact that it is not possible for the Secretary to deal directly with the multiplicity of issues and problems presented by each of the hundreds of tribal entities in the country now recognized by the Government. Just as the President of the United States interacts with Indian tribes on an intergovernmental basis and through the President's Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, so does the Secretary of Agriculture. The Director of Native American Programs, who supervises this work for USDA, acts on behalf of the

Department to:

- Serve as principal adviser and representative on all matters related to USDA policy and programs as they benefit and affect American Indians and Alaska Natives. The Director provides effective guidance and leadership concerning American Indian and Alaska Native policy and program responsibilities.
- Chair the American Indian and Alaska Native Agriculture Network and the Native American Working Group (NAWG), USDA, to which USDA agencies involved with American Indians and Alaska Natives send representatives if they have any dealings with tribal peoples. (The duties of the NAWG are spelled out below.)

Eligibility Requirements: Any person of American Indian or Alaska Native heritage is eligible for the above coordination and information services as needed.

How To Apply: Phone, send a letter, or send a facsimile message to the Director, Native American Programs. Telephone is: (202) 720-3805. Facsimile No. is: (202) 720-8098. Address is: Room 528-A, USDA-OPA, Washington, DC 20250-1300.

Whom To Contact: Jim Pace, Director of Native American Programs, OIA; or George Holcomb, Assistant Director; or the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs.

Available Assistance: Information about USDA services and coordination help in focusing on and obtaining USDA agency services from any USDA agency or agencies.

Printed Information Available: The primary publication is "Guide to USDA Programs for Native Americans."

Also available are factsheets on alternative agriculture topics, including: Sheep, Goats, Exotic Livestock, Mushrooms, Exotic Fruits, Specialty Vegetables, Aquaculture, Specialty Flowers, Herbs, Wildflowers, Desert Vines, Foliage Plants, Beekeeping, Woodlots, Brambles, Specialty Potatoes, Strawberries, Specialty Corn, Cashmere Goats, Mohair Goats, etc.

Also available are a very limited number of copies of the "American Indian and Alaska Native Career Development Youth Manual". This manual seeks to help young tribal people decide on their future career prospects and studies.

Administering Agency: Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Office of Public Affairs, USDA, Room 536-A, Administration Building, at 14th Street and Independence Avenue, Southwest, Washington, DC 20250-1300.

Use Restrictions: None; see Available Assistance.

Fund Availability: The agency has no funds to provide aside from its own expenditures.

Local Contacts: None outside Washington, DC; see How To Apply.

The Native American Working Group

Department Regulation No. 1020-5Dated: January 10, 1992

1 Purpose

The purpose of this regulation is to set forth the responsibilities of the Native American Working Group (Working Group) and to identify the methods by which the Working Group will operate.

2 Special Instructions

This regulation supersedes Department Regulation No. 1312-1 of December 6, 1983.

3 Policy

It is the policy of USDA to improve opportunities for all rural Americans by providing for effective and efficient coordination of Federal agricultural and rural development programs within each of the individual States and Territories.

In view of such policy, departmental agencies have the responsibility for directing resources to the Native American segment of the rural populations on an equal basis with the rest of the rural population.

4 Definition

"Native American" means a member of any American Indian tribe, band, group, or nation, including Alaska Indians, Aleuts, Eskimos, and Alaska Native villages of the United States.



5 Background

The majority of the Native American population of the United States resides in rural areas. Nearly half of the total Native American population of up to 2 million people live on rurally located tribal reservations. In the past, individual USDA agencies have taken the initiative in finding ways to serve Native Americans as a group. However, it is essential that there be departmentwide direction and coordination to assure this clientele access to the services and programs of USDA agencies. Therefore, on January 15, 1983, the Secretary ordered the establishment of the Native American Working Group (Working Group) within the Governmental and Public Affairs Committee of the Secretary's Policy and Coordination Council to assist the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (OIA), Office of Public Affairs, in carrying out policies established by the Secretary. Departmental Regulation 1312-1 set out the Working Group's responsibilities.

6 Responsibilities

The Working Group will provide such advice, support, and other assistance to OIA and the Director of Native American Programs (Director) as may be required to ensure the effective coordination and guidance of all USDA policies and programs regarding Native Americans. The Secretary retains authority for establishing departmental policy relating to coordination of USDA activities of interest to the Native American population.

7 Operations

a) The Director will serve as Chairperson of the Working Group and may designate a USDA employee to serve as Executive Secretary of the Working Group. In addition, the Director may establish such subgroups as he or she deems necessary to carry out the activities of the Working Group.

b) The Working Group will consist of senior USDA officials as selected by therector of Public Affairs. Each representative may select an employee of his or her agency who works with Native Americans to serve as his or her alternate on the Working Group.

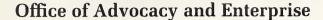
8 Meeting

The Working Group will meet at the call of the Chairperson as a group at least quarterly to address the objectives and interests of the respective USDA activities involving Native Americans. The Chairperson is authorized to meet with individual members of the Working Group as he or she deems necessary. Other persons, agencies, or groups may be invited to attend specific meetings when the Chairperson deems it appropriate.

9 Reporting

Before the end of each fiscal year, the Working Group will summarize its activities during the preceding year and will submit a report to the Secretary of Agriculture.

Administration



The mission of the Office of Advocacy and Enterprise (OAE) is to provide leadership and coordination for the Department's programs for Equal Opportunity and Civil Rights; to implement and administer the programs under Sections 8 and 15 of the Small Business Act, as amended; and to direct the Department's efforts to further the participation of minority colleges and universities in Departmental programs. OAE also directs and monitors agency compliance in promoting full and open competition in procurement and provides policy guidance on all Special Emphasis Program areas.

Special Emphasis Outreach Programs

In May 1990, the Office of Special Emphasis Outreach Programs (SEOP) was developed to advise the Director of OAE of unique concerns and problems related to equal opportunity for American Indian & Alaska Natives, Asian Pacific Americans, Blacks, Hispanics, People with Disabilities, and women. Responsibility for the Small and Limited Resource Farmers Program also resides in this office.

The Native American Program is the Department's intermediary to the American Indian and Alaska Native communities on employment and civil rights issues. The functions of the office are as follows:

(a) serves as the Department's principal advisor on employment, outreach and civil rights issues relative to American Indians and Alaska Natives.

- **(b)** works with the Office of Personnel to provide employment-related outreach to American Indian and Alaska Native organizations and educational institutions.
- (c) analyzes departmental policies and issues affecting the employment and civil rights of American Indians and Alaska Natives.
- (d) coordinates USDA's participation in conferences sponsored by and for American Indians and Alaska Natives relative to employment and civil rights.
- (e) provides sensitivity training to USDA employees to facilitate the efficiency of their work with American Indians and Alaska Natives.
- **(f)** coordinates USDA's annual celebration of National American Indian Heritage Month.

Whom To Contact: USDA, OAE, SEOP, Native American Program Manager, Washington, DC 20250. Telephone: (202) 720-7002.

Administering Agency: USDA, Office of Advocacy and Enterprise

Local Contact: Through USDA Agency's Office of Equal Opportunity

Economic Services



The mission of USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS) is to provide economic and other social science information and analysis for improving the performance of agriculture and rural America. ERS was established in 1961 by Secretary's Memorandum No. 1446 under the authority of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U. S. C. 1621 - 1627).

ERS serves the U.S. Congress as well as the public in general. Publications cover a wide variety of topics, including policies that affect farmers and the population of rural America. In addition to the studies on rural America as a whole, ERS has focused on Native American demography, the state of Native American farming, and the history of Native American contributions to American agriculture.

Food and Consumer Services



The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) in the U.S. Department of Agriculture provides three types of programs which benefit Native Americans or tribes, or which are of special interest to Native Americans.

(1) Programs which are specifically designed to benefit Indians or Indian Tribes as organized Indian groups.

FNS administers the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations for Indian households living on or near certain federally or State recognized reservations.

(2) Programs which specifically include Indians or Indian Tribes among designated beneficiaries.

FNS provides three programs which specifically mention Indian Tribes, including the Food Stamp Program, the Special Supplementary Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), and the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP). Special provisions of the law (or regulation in the case of CSFP), permit Indian Tribal Organizations to administer the program where appropriate. All low income households, including Indian households, may be eligible for food stamps, while low income households with pregnant and post-partum women and their infants and young children may also be eligible for WIC or CSFP.

- (3) Programs which, while not specifically naming Indians or Indian Tribes as beneficiaries, may nevertheless be of special interest to Indians or Indian Tribes.
- (a) FNS provides several Child Nutrition Programs from which Indians can benefit. These include the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, the Child and Adult Care Food Program, the Special Milk Program, the Summer Food Service Program for Children, and the Nutrition Education and Training Program.
- (b) FNS administers the Food Distribution Program, which provides commodities to needy people in Charitable Institutions, and contributes to the Nutrition Programs for the Elderly Program

administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (This program has a special Indian Tribal component.)

(c) The Food Distribution Program also donates food to needy persons in declared areas through disaster relief agencies.

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations

Name, Nature, and Purpose: The Food and Nutrition Service donates food to help meet the nutritional needs of low-income households on Indian Reservations and Indian households near these reservations. The program also helps to expand markets for food that American farmers produce. USDA commodities are distributed to eligible households on a monthly basis, usually from warehouse facilities located on reservations. Participating agencies are either eligible Indian Tribal Organizations or agencies of State government. The distributing agents order food items from a list of approved USDA commodities, taking into account local Indian household food preferences.

Participants also receive information about nutrition, food storage, sanitary food preparation methods, and suggestions for recipes using donated food from nutritionists, county extension agents, home economists, and other sources.

Eligibility Requirements: (a) Participating Agency Eligibility: Participating food distribution agencies at the State level or Indian Tribal Organizations (ITO's) may apply to administer the program. Once the request is approved, the participating agency submits an annual State plan of operations.

Local Contacts: Please refer to the attached list of FNS Field Offices for information. General information is available from the Policy and Family Assistance Section, Food Distribution Division, Food and Nutrition service, USDA, Alexandria, Virginia 22302, telephone (703)756-3660.

Printed Information Available: Printed information includes the Regulations, 7 CFR Part 253. "Administration of the Food Distribution Program for Households on Indian Reservations." FNS Handbook No. 501, Procedures for the Food Distribution on Indian Reservations; Brochures: "Food Distribution Program" on Indian Reservations (FNS-222) and "Food Distribution Program" (FNS-214); also see the Bimonthly FNS Publication, Food and Nutrition, Vol. 10, No. 5, August 1980.

Authorizing Legislation: Section 4(b) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, and Section 4(a) of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973, as amended.

Administering Agency: Food and Nutrition Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Available Assistance: Indian Food Package issued according to FNS Guide Rate. Donation of Foods to households and provision of nutrition information. Technical assistance to Indian Tribal Organizations of State Agencies administering the program is available from FNS Regional Offices. Administrative costs are provided by FNS at no more than 75 percent of approved administrative costs unless exceptions are granted.

Use Restrictions: Food is made available for distribution without charge to qualified households. Donated foods are not to be sold, exchanged, or otherwise disposed of without prior, specific approval of the Department. Funds provided must be expended to assist in meeting operating expenses incurred in administering food distribution programs. These funds may not be used to purchase real property (land and buildings); administrative costs should not exceed 30 percent of food value.

Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1992 by USDA (FNS): \$81,945,000.

Appropriations for each of the preceding three Fiscal Years: 1989 - \$57,854,999; 1990 - \$60,140,000; 1991 - \$78,241,000.

Obligations Incurred: Fiscal Year 1989 - \$57,079,000; 1990 - \$60,061,000; 1991 - \$72,874,000.

Washington Contacts: Alberta Frost, Director, Food Distribution Division, Food and Nutrition Service, Room 502, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22302.

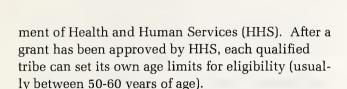
Local Contacts: The Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations currently operates with 224 Tribes, and is administered locally by 88 Indian Tribal Organizations and 5 State Agencies. A list of currently participating Tribes by State is listed below.

Related Programs: The Food Stamp Program; the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP Extension).

Nutrition Program for the Elderly (Title VI)

Name, Nature and Purpose: This program serves elderly Native Americans who participate in the nutrition and social services program of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, by providing nutritious meals for elderly Indians. These meals are provided in community centers for the elderly and consist of well-balanced hot or cold meals at least once a day, five or more days a week. Meals are delivered to elderly homebound individuals.

Eligibility Requirements: There must be at least 50 people on a specific reservation aged 60 or over. When this requirement has been met, the reservation must apply for a grant approved by the Depart-



While each provider of nutrition services suggests an appropriate monetary contribution based on local economic conditions, each person decides what he/she can contribute toward the cost of the meal. Contributions are strictly voluntary and the meals are free of charge to eligible persons if they cannot make any contributions.

How to Apply: Interested tribal organizations must first submit an application to the Department of Health and Human Services. Once approved, the eligible tribal organization may request USDA assistance in the form of cash or commodities, from the appropriate Food and Nutrition Service regional office. Currently, 150 Indian Tribal agencies are participating in this program.

Whom to Contact: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging, Washington, D.C. and all State Agencies on Aging.

Printed Information Available: FNS Brochure 223, "The Nutrition Program for the Elderly."

Authorizing Legislation: Section 601 of the Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended.

Administering Agency: Administration on Aging, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Available Assistance: Food commodities or cash reimbursements for meals. Nutrition services in community centers, meals at least 5 days each week, transportation to and from the meal sites, and delivered meals for the homebound. Social and referral services.

Use Restrictions: USDA funds must be used for meals supplied by the program, and the commodities cannot be exchanged, sold, or transferred.

Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1992 by USDA (FNS): \$151,492,000.

Appropriations for Each of Past 3 Fiscal Years: 1989 - \$141,293,000; 1990 - \$143,482,000; 1991 - \$149,895,000.

Obligations Incurred: 1988 - \$137,559,000; 1989 - \$140,863,000; 1990 - \$143,379,000; 1991 - \$141,701,000; 1992 - \$151,492,000.

Washington Contacts: Administration on Aging, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C.

Cooperating Agency: Food Distribution Division, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302.

Local Contacts: Refer to the Administration on Aging, HHS.

Related Programs: USDA Food Distribution Programs (TEFAP, FDPIR, CSFP), Food Stamp Program.

Food Stamp Program

Nature and Purpose: The present Food Stamp Program (Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended) helps low-income households buy more food for a more nutritious diet. It is a cooperative Federal-State effort to provide an allotment of food coupons to eligible households in the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the outlying Territories of the Virgin Islands and Guam. Eligible households receive a monthly allotment of food stamps at no charge based on household income, assets, and the number of household members.



Eligibility Requirements:

Agency Eligibility: State agencies request the program from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service. All States currently participate. The State agency is responsible for conducting the Food Stamp Program in each State. The State agency is also responsible for conducting the Food Stamp Program on Indian reservations unless the Secretary of Agriculture determines that a State is failing to properly administer the program. If such failure on the part of the State is determined and if the Secretary also determines that an ITO is capable of operating an efficient and effective program, then the ITO may be allowed to administer the program.

Beneficiary Eligibility: Eligibility is based on household income, size, and level of resources. In addition to financial criteria, the household must meet several non-financial standards which include citizenship or legal alien status, work registration, etc.

How To Apply: Households apply through their local food stamp certification office. This office provides an application for the Food Stamp Program to any person upon request, and must accept an identifiable application on the same day that contact is first made. The certification office must determine eligibility within 30 days, and if approved, the household receives an allotment retroactive to the date of application. Expedited service is available for households determined to be destitute.

Whom To Contact:

On the national level, contact the Deputy Administrator, Food Stamp Program, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302. Refer to the list on page 11 for regional contacts.

Printed Information Available: Printed information may be obtained from the Director, Office of Public Information, Food and Nutrition Service,

USDA, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302.

Authorizing Legislation: The Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, 7 U.S.C. 2011-1031.

Available Assistance: Direct payments of food coupons for specified use, at no charge to beneficiaries. Participating households can use the food coupons to purchase the following items at participating retailers:

- (a) most food and food products for home consumption;
- (b) seeds and plants for use in gardens to produce food;
- (c) meal services for the elderly and the physically and mentally handicapped;
- (d) meals for narcotics addicts or alcoholics in State-certified treatment and rehabilitation programs; and residents of shelters for battered women and children;
- (e) of special interest to some Indians and Indian tribes, food stamps in Alaska may be used by certain eligible households to purchase equipment such as fish hooks and harpoons for procuring food by hunting and fishing.

Use Restrictions: Coupons may be used by beneficiaries only to purchase food items in authorized food stores. However, except in the cases listed above, meals or hot food may not be purchased; nonfood items, including alcoholic beverages, household materials, or tobacco, may not be purchased with food stamps.

Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1992: \$22,349,975,000.

Appropriations for Preceding 3 Fiscal Years: 1989: \$12,915,329,000; 1990 - \$15,969,589,000; 1991 - \$19,576,681,000.



Obligations Incurred: 1989 - \$12,859,527,000; 1990 - \$15,527,686,000; 1991 - \$18,735,869,000.

Washington Contacts: Deputy Administrator, Food Stamp Program, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302.

Local Contacts: See list below for regional contacts.

Related Programs: Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, Needy Family Food Distribution Program, Child Nutrition Programs, WIC, Public and Non-Public Assistance Programs, and Supplemental Security Income Program.

Regional Offices

Regional Administrator, Northeast Regional Office, USDA, Food and Nutrition Service, 10 Causeway Street, Boston, MA 02222-1069. (617) 565-6370.

Regional Administrator, Mid-Atlantic Regional Office, USDA, Food and Nutrition Service, Mercer Corporate Blvd., CN 02150, Trenton, NJ 08650. (609) 259-5025.

Regional Administrator, Southeast Regional Office, USDA, Food and Nutrition Service, 77 Forsyth Street, S.W., Suite 112, Atlanta, GA 30303. (404) 730-2565.

Regional Administrator, Midwest Regional Office, USDA, Food and Nutrition Service, 77 W. Jackson Blvd., 20th Floor, Chicago, IL 60614-3507. (312) 353-6664.

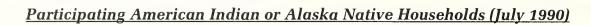
Regional Administrator, Mountain Plains Regional Office, USDA, Food and Nutrition Service, 2420 West 26th Avenue, Room 430-D, Denver, CO 80211. (303) 844-0300.

Regional Administrator, Southwest Regional Office, USDA, Food and Nutrition Service, 1100 Commerce Street, Room 5-C-30, Dallas, TX 75242. (214) 767-0222.

Sharon Levinson, Regional Administrator, Western Regional Office, USDA, Food and Nutrition Service, 550 Kearny Street, Room 400, San Francisco, CA 94108. (415) 465-1310.

Indian and Alaska Native Food Stamp Participation and Benefits

The Food and Nutrition Service does not collect information concerning Indian and Alaska Native food stamp participation and benefits by individual reservation or community. Additionally, program benefit data do not categorize benefits by racial or ethnic groupings. In the absence of this information, we are providing the most recent household participation data for Indians and Alaska Natives by State.



Alabama223	Nebraska1,311
Alaska4,014	Nevada602
Arizona17,342	New Hampshire3
Arkansas90	New Jersey121
California5,300	New Mexico6,796
Colorado1,125	New York1,742
Connecticut31	North Carolina3,524
Delaware24	North Dakota2,731
Florida290	Ohio3,175
Georgia76	Oklahoma8,447
Idaho520	Oregon1,664
Illinois593	Pennsylvania290
Indiana85	Rhode Island115
Iowa349	South Carolina152
Kansas448	South Dakota5,590
Kentucky47	Tennessee169
Louisiana560	Texas1,421
Maine339	Utah2,204
Maryland230	Vermont33
Massachusetts373	Virginia123
Michigan	Washington4,199
Minnesota6,103	West Virginia18
Mississippi376	Wisconsin2,815
Missouri51	Wyoming873
Montana4,140	Washington, D.C13

Note—U.S. Total: 93,692 (1.2 percent of total caseload)



National School Lunch Program

Nature and Purpose: The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) makes nutritious low-cost lunches available to children in schools of high school grade or under. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides participating schools with basic cash and commodity assistance for each lunch served in accordance with prescribed nutritional standards. Additional cash assistance is provided for each of those lunches served free or at a reduced price to needy children. Cash assistance is also available for meal supplements served in afterschool care programs operated by certain schools.

Eligibility Requirements:

(a) Agency Eligibility: State agencies request the program from USDA, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). The State agency is responsible for conducting the program in each State. State agencies administer the program in schools through school food authorities, i.e., the governing body of participating schools at the local level. Schools eligible to participate include schools of high school grade or under and residential child care institutions which operate under public or nonprofit private ownership;

(b) Beneficiary Eligibility: Participating schools receive USDA basic cash and commodity assistance for each lunch served under the program. This assistance is used to lower the price for each meal served to nonneedy schoolchildren. Participating schools also receive additional cash assistance for each meal served free or at a reduced price to children from low-income families which meet specified income standards.

How To Apply: At the beginning of each school year all children are given an application form in schools which have the NSLP. During the school year, families interested in free or reduced-price lunches for their children must contact their

child's school to request an application for free and reduced-price meals. The application must be completed and returned to the school in order for school officials to make an eligibility determination. Families may apply for free or reduced-price lunches at any time during the school year. At local option, schools may directly contact food stamp or AFDC offices to obtain certification that children are members of food stamp/AFDC households. Such children become eligible for free meals without further application.

Whom To Contact: A list of regional offices is found on page 11. On the national level, contact the Child Nutrition Division, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA, Alexandria, VA 22302.

Printed Information Available: Publications concerning the program may be obtained from the Child Nutrition Division, address listed above or regional offices listed below.

Authorizing Legislation: The National School Lunch Act, as amended, and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 1751, et seq.)

Administering Agency: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

Available Assistance: Low-cost lunches and supplements are made available to non-needy children and free or reduced-price lunches and supplements are made available to needy children. Lunches are designed to meet, over a period of time, approximately one-third of the recommended dietary allowance as published by the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Research Council, National Academy of Sciences. The lunch pattern includes a meat or meat alternate, two servings of fruits and/or vegetables, bread or bread alternates, and milk. Meal supplements are available to children enrolled in after-school-hours care programs in



schools which operate school lunch programs under the NSLP and were participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program as of May 15, 1989. The supplement pattern includes any two of the items required for school lunches.

Use Restrictions: Per meal Federal reimbursement and commodity assistance are available for NSLP lunches served to schoolchildren in participating schools. Lunches served to adults may not be claimed for reimbursement. Lunches served to schoolchildren which do not meet the requirements of program regulations (7 CFR Parts 210 and 245) may not be claimed for reimbursement. Donated commodities are made available for use in connection with the service of NSLP lunches. Per meal Federal reimbursement is also available for supplements served to eligible children.

Appropriation for Fiscal Year 1992: \$3,653,445.

Appropriations for Each of the Past 3 Fiscal Years: 1989 - \$3,025,352; 1990 - \$3,114,624; 1991 - \$3,443,644.

Obligations Incurred: 1988 - \$2,934,996; 1989 - \$3,082,247; 1990 - \$3,229,951.

Washington Contact: Director, Child Nutrition Division, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 1006, Alexandria, VA 22302.

Local Contacts: For information on participating State agencies contact the appropriate regional office listed elsewhere.

Related Programs: School Breakfast Program and Special Milk Program for Children.

Regional Offices

In the States of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island,

and Vermont: Northeast Regional Office (see page 11).

In the States of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee: Southeast Regional Office (see page 11).

In the States of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin: Midwest Regional Office (see page 11).

In the States of Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas: Southwest Regional Office (see page 11).

In jurisdictions of Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Washington: Western Regional Office (see page 11).

In the jurisdictions of Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Virginia, the Virgin Islands, and West Virginia: Mid-Atlantic Regional Office (see page 11).

In the States of Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming: Mountain Plains Regional Office (see page 11).

School Breakfast Program

Nature and Purpose: The School Breakfast Program (SBP) makes nutritious low-cost breakfasts available to children in schools of high school grade or under. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides participating schools with basic cash assistance—for breakfasts served to non-needy children who meet prescribed nutritional standards. A higher level of cash assistance is provided for each breakfast that meets prescribed nutritional standards and is served free or at a reduced price to needy children.

Eligibility Requirements:

(a) Agency Eligibility: State agencies request



the program from USDA, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). The State agency is responsible for conducting the program in schools through school food authorities, i.e., the governing body of participating schools at the local level. Schools eligible to participate include those of high school grade or under and residential child care institutions which operate under public or nonprofit private ownership.

(b) Beneficiary Eligibility: Participating schools receive USDA basic cash assistance for each breakfast served under the program. This assistance is used to lower the price of breakfast paid by nonneedy schoolchildren. Participating schools receive a higher level of cash assistance for each breakfast served free or at a reduced price to children from low-income families which meet specified income standards.

How To Apply: At the beginning of each school year, all schoolchildren are given an application form in schools which have the SBP. During the school year, families interested in free or reducedprice breakfasts for their children should contact their child's school to request an application for free or reduced-price meals. The application must be completed and returned to the school in order for school officials to make an eligibility determination. Families may apply for free or reducedprice breakfasts at any time during the school year. At local option, schools may directly contact food stamp or AFDC offices to obtain certification that children are members of food stamp/AFDC households. Such children become eligible for free meals without further application.

Whom To Contact: A list of regional offices is published on page 11. On the national level, contact the Child Nutrition Division, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA, Alexandria, VA 22302.

Printed Information Available: Publications concerning the program may be obtained from the Child Nutrition Division, at the address listed in

the preceding paragraph, or at the regional offices listed on page 11.

Authorizing Legislation: The Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 1773)

Administering Agency: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

Available Assistance: Low-cost breakfasts are made available to non-needy children, and free or reduced-price breakfasts are made available to needy children. The breakfasts include a fruit or vegetable (or fruit or vegetable juice), milk, and one serving of a bread or bread alternate and one serving of meat or meat alternate or two servings of bread or bread alternate or meat alternate.

Use Restrictions: Per meal Federal reimbursement is available for SBP breakfasts served to school children in participating schools. Breakfasts served to adults may not be claimed for reimbursement. Breakfasts served to school children who do not meet the requirements of program regulations (7 CFR Parts 220 and 245) may not be claimed for reimbursements.

Appropriations: 1991 - \$639,996,000.

Appropriations for Each of the 3 Preceding Fiscal Years: 1989 - \$514,498,000; 1990 - \$563,926,000; 1991 - \$744,385,000.

Obligations Incurred: 1989 - \$513,032,000; 1990 - \$591,536,000; 1991 - \$683,119,000.

Regional Offices: See list published on page 11.



Special Milk Program for Children

Nature and Purpose: The Special Milk Program for Children (SMP) encourages consumption of fluid milk by children, by reimbursing participating schools and institutions for part of the cost of each half pint served under the program.

Eligibility Requirements:

(a) Agency Eligibility: State agencies request the program from USDA, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). The State agency is responsible for conducting the program in each State. State agencies administer the program in schools through school food authorities, i.e., the governing body of participating schools at the local level and in child care institutions. This program is limited to schools and certain other public or private nonprofit institutions which do not participate in another meal service program authorized under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended, or the National School Lunch Act, as amended, except that schools with such meal services may participate in the Special Milk Program for children attending split-session kindergarten programs who do not have access to the meal service.

(b) Beneficiary Eligibility: Participating schools and institutions receive a fixed rate of Federal cash assistance for each half pint of milk served under the program. This assistance is used to make low-cost milk available to all schoolchildren regardless of family income. Participating schools may elect to offer milk free to children from low-income families which meet specified income standards. In this case, schools and institutions receive the actual cost of each 1/2 pint of milk served free to children from low-income families meeting the specified income standard.

How To Apply: When local officials elect to provide free milk to eligible children at the beginning of each school year, all schoolchildren are given an application form in schools and institutions participating in the SMP. During the school year, fami-

lies interested in free milk for their children should contact each child's school or institution to request an application for free milk. The application must be completed and returned to the school or institution in order for the officials to make an eligibility determination. Families may apply for free milk at any time during the school year. At local option, schools may directly contact food stamp or AFDC offices to obtain certification that children are members of food stamp/AFDC households. Such children become eligible for free meals without further application.

Whom To Contact: A list of regional offices is on page 11. On the national level, contact the Child Nutrition Division, Food and Nutrition Service, USDA, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302.

Printed Information Available: Publications concerning the program may be obtained from the Child Nutrition Division, same address as listed above, or use the appropriate regional office listed elsewhere in these pages.

Authorizing Legislation: Section 3 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 1772)

Administering Agency: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

Available Assistance: Schools and institutions may elect (a) to offer low-cost milk to all school children, or (b) to offer low-cost milk to non-needy children and free milk to eligible needy children. Participating schools and institutions receive a fixed rate of Federal cash assistance for each half pint of milk served under the program, to a paying child. For each free milk served to eligible children, schools and institutions receive reimbursements equal to the average cost of free milk served, up to the maximum reimbursement rate. In order to receive USDA reimbursement, schools and insti-

tutions must provide a half pint of pasteurized whole milk, lowfat milk, skim milk, or cultured buttermilk meeting State and local standards for such milk.

Use Restrictions: USDA reimbursement is available for each half pint of milk served to children in participating schools and institutions. Milk served to adults may not be claimed for reimbursement. Milk served to children must meet the requirements for the service of such milk as established in 7 CFR Parts 215 and 245.

Appropriations: Fiscal Year 1992 - \$23,011,000.

Appropriations for Each of the 3 Preceding Fiscal Years: 1989 - \$19,925,000; 1990 -\$20,309,000; 1991 - \$19,268,000.

Obligations Incurred: 1989 - \$19,905,000; 1990 - \$22,043,000; 1991 - \$20,425,000;

Regional Offices: See list on page 11.

Summer Food Service Program

Nature and Purpose: The Summer Food Service Program for Children (SFSP) provides cash assistance to sponsoring organizations to help provide meals comparable to those served under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, to children from areas in which poor economic conditions exist when area schools are closed for vacation. Eligible sponsors include public and private non-profit school food authorities; summer camps, and colleges or universities in the National Youth Sports Program; local, county, municipal, or State governmental units; and private nonprofit organizations that meet specific criteria as defined in SFSP regulations (7 CFR Part 225).

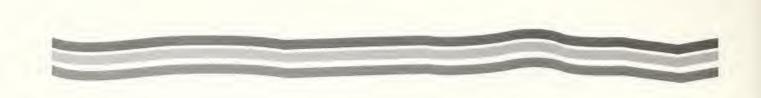
Sponsors may operate one or more food service programs at "open area-eligible" sites in areas where at least 50 percent of the children are eligi-

ble for free or reduced-price school meals based on school or census tract data; at "enrolled area-eligible" sites where at least 50 percent of the enrolled children are individually determined to be eligible for such meals; at "homeless feeding sites"; or at camps. Regular sites may serve up to two reimbursable meals each day — lunch and snack, or lunch and breakfast; while camps and sites serving children of migrant workers can serve up to four meals — breakfast, lunch, snack, and/or dinner. Sponsors may choose to prepare meals on-site or at a central kitchen, or they may contract to purchase prepared unitized meals from a school food authority or commercial food service management company.

Eligibility Requirements:

(a) Agency Eligibility: State agencies desiring to take part in the program enter into a written agreement with FNS (acting on behalf of the Department) for the administration of the program in that State in accordance with provisions of the SFSP regulations (7 CFR Part 225). The written agreement contains several specific provisions, one of which is an assurance that both the State agency and the sponsor comply with the Department's nondiscrimination regulations (7 CFR Part 15) as now existing or later amended, and any instructions issued by FNS pursuant to those regulations.

(b) Beneficiary Eligibility: Eligibility in the SFSP is based on "areas" in which poor economic conditions exist. Within the structure of "areas," the sponsor must document that the local area from which the site draws its attendance has at least 50 percent of the children who are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs based on school or census tract data. Or, for sponsors of an enrollment program, the sponsor must collect family size and income information from children enrolled in the program at the site. This information must document that, at a minimum, 50 percent of the children enrolled at each specific site are eligible for free or reduced-price school



meals. Sponsors of camps are reimbursed only for those meals served to enrollees in camps whose eligibility for free or reduced-price meals are documented, while at "enrolled" sites, sponsors are reimbursed for meals served to all enrolled attendees. Sites feeding primarily homeless children are eligible without regard to "area" or "individual child" considerations.

How To Apply: All applicant sponsors must submit a complete application for program participation to the administering agency by June 15. However, the State agency may establish an earlier deadline date for program application submission. The applicant sponsor must meet the "area" of eligibility and the "sponsor" eligibility requirements in accordance with the current SFSP regulations. In addition, within 30 days of receiving a complete and correct application, the State agency must notify the applicant of its approval or disapproval.

Whom To Contact: Persons desiring information concerning the program may write the appropriate State agency or regional office of the FNS as indicated below:

Printed Information Available: Numerous publications and handbooks are available which provide specific and general program information to help in planning and preparing nutritious meals. Contact the appropriate State agencies or regional offices, listed elsewhere.

Authorizing Legislation: The SFSP is authorized by Section 13 of the National School Lunch Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 1761)

Administering Agency: In most States, the responsibility for administering the program is within the State by the State department of education. Where States do not administer the program, FNS regional offices operate it directly. Refer to the above list of regional offices.

Available Assistance: Federal funding is made available to children (as defined by the SFSP regulation) 18 years of age and younger. Persons over 18 who are mentally or physically handicapped and participate in a public or nonprofit private school program designed especially for them are also eligible to participate.

Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1992: \$189,334,000.

Appropriations for Each of the Preceding 3 Fiscal Years: 1989 -\$147,824,000; 1990 - \$170,872,000; 1991 - \$179,116,000.

Obligations Incurred: 1989 - \$146,672,000; 1990 - \$163,450,000; 1991 - \$179,116,000.

Washington Contact: Director, Child Nutrition Division, Food and Nutrition Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 1006, Alexandria, VA 22302.

Local Contacts: Refer to list of regional offices published on page 11.

Related Programs: Other Child Nutrition Programs; Food Distribution Program; Food Stamp Program; and Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program.

Regional Offices: See list published on page 11).

Child and Adult Care Food Program

Nature and Purpose: The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) provides cash and commodities to licensed or approved daycare centers for children or for functionally impaired and elderly adults, and sponsoring organizations of family day care homes for children so that nutritious meals may be served to enrollees. Child care centers, sponsors of family day care homes for chil-



dren, outside-school-hours care centers for children and certain adult care centers can receive this aid if they are public or private nonprofit and non-residential; or private for-profit receiving compensation under Title XIX or XX of the Social Security Act for at least 25 percent of enrollees. The goal of the program is to provide well-balanced meals to improve the diets of enrollees. It also gives participants the opportunity to eat and enjoy a variety of nutritious foods.

Eligibility Requirements:

(a) Agency Eligibility: State agencies desiring to take part in the program enter into a written agreement with FNS (acting on behalf of the Department) for the administration of the program in that State in accordance with provisions of the CACFP regulations (7 CFR Part 226).

(b) Institution Eligibility: All private centers and sponsoring organizations (except for-profit Title XIX or Title XX organizations) must have tax-exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or must have applied to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for it at the time they apply for the CACFP. Family daycare homes are not required to be tax-exempt, but their sponsoring organizations are. Local IRS offices can provide information on how to obtain tax-exempt status.

How To Apply: Interested institutions can obtain applications from the State agency and submit all information required for approval. The institutions are required annually to sign a program agreement or renew the previous agreement and accept final responsibility for the financial and administrative management of an effective food service. In addition, each State agency and institution must comply with all requirements in the CACFP regulations (7 CFR Part 226), the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Agriculture Department's nondiscrimination regulations (7 CFR Part 15) as now existing or later amended.

Whom To Contact: Persons desiring information concerning the program may write to the appropriate State agency or regional office of the FNS as shown on page 11.

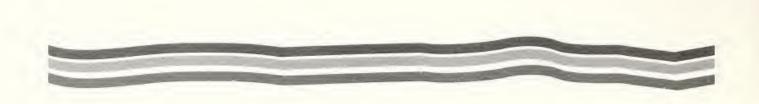
Printed Information Available: USDA offers numerous publications, guides, posters, charts, and handbooks which provide specific and general program information to help in planning and preparing nutritious meals. Contact the appropriate State agency or regional office as listed elsewhere.

Authorizing Legislation: The CACFP is authorized by Section 17 of the National School Lunch Act, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 1766)

Administering Agency: In most States, the responsibility for administering the program is with the State, by the State department of education or an alternate agency designated by the State. In Virginia and New York, FNS regional offices operate the program directly. Refer to the list of regional offices on page 11.

Available Assistance: Federal funding is made available to assist States to make program payments to participating centers and sponsoring organizations.

Use Restriction: The program is available to children 12 years of age and younger. Persons mentally or physically handicapped, as defined by the State, who are enrolled in an institution or a child care facility serving a majority of persons 18 years of age and under, and children of migrant workers up to the age of 16. The program is also available to adults over 60 years of age or determined by the State and local agencies to be "functionally impaired" adults over 18 who are not residents of an institution. Eligibility requirements vary for different kinds of institutions. To find out these requirements, refer to the State agency or regional offices.



Appropriation for Fiscal Year **1992**: \$1,189,370,000.

Appropriation for Each of the Preceding 3 Fiscal Years: 1989 - \$655,932,000; 1990 - \$757,288,000; 1991 - \$927,935,000.

Obligations Incurred: 1989 - \$677,431,000; 1990 - \$814,440,000; 1991 - \$927,935,000.

Washington Contact: Director, Child Nutrition Division, Food and Nutrition Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 1006, Alexandria, VA 22302.

Local Contacts: See list of regional offices published above.

Related Programs: Other Child Nutrition Programs; Food Distribution Program; Food Stamp Program; and Women, Infants, and Children Program.

Regional Offices: See list published on page 11.

Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

Nature and Purpose: The program provides specific supplemental food, nutrition education and health care referrals to low-income pregnant, postpartum and breast-feeding women, infants and children up to age 5, who are determined by a competent professional authority to be at nutritional risk due to inadequate nutrition.

Eligibility Requirements:

Agency Eligibility: WIC is administered by State health departments or comparable agencies. In addition, Indian tribes, bands, groups, or their authorized representatives recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, or the appropriate area office of the Indian

Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services, may also serve as WIC State agencies. Thirty-two Indian State agencies are currently operating WIC Programs. Additionally, other States are serving Native Americans as part of their own administration of the program.

Beneficiary Eligibility: There are three eligibility criteria.

- First, competent professionals such as physicians, registered nurses, nutritionists, dieticians or other health officials must determine applicants to be at nutritional risk and therefore in need of the supplemental foods. ("Nutritional risk" is a term used to indicate low birth weight, obesity, anemia, or an inadequate dietary pattern.)
- Second, applicants must meet specified income standards. State income criteria for the WIC Program cannot be less than 100 percent, or greater than 185 percent of the Office of Management and Budget's income poverty guidelines. Each WIC State agency can establish the income criteria to be used by its local agencies within this range, in order to coordinate WIC income guidelines with State or local income limits for free or reduced-price health care. States which do not so coordinate must use 185 percent for WIC.
- Third, if the State has residency requirements, applicants must live in a project area determined by the State to be "approved" or belong to a special population group, such as migrant farm workers or Native Americans. There is not, however, a length of residency requirement.

How To Apply:

(a) WIC State agencies must submit a State Plan of Program Operation and Administration, and enter into a written agreement with USDA for administration of the program. WIC State agencies enter into written agreements with local agencies for program operations. Local agencies are either a health or welfare agency that can provide both health services, either directly or indirectly, and administrative services. Health service means routine pediatric and obstetric care.



(b) Individual applicants must apply to receive program benefits at operating local agency clinic sites. Applicants are notified of their eligibility or ineligibility within 20 days of the date of the first request for program benefits. Those at special nutritional risk are notified within 10 days.

Whom To Contact: Persons desiring information concerning the program may write to the FNS national or regional office as listed on page 11.

Printed Information Available: Numerous publications are available which provide general program information and discuss such topics as nutrition education, supplemental foods, breast-feeding, and retailer education. Materials should be requested at the National Office, listed above under Washington Contact.

Authorizing Legislation: Section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended. (42 U.S.C. 1786.)

Administering Agency: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service.

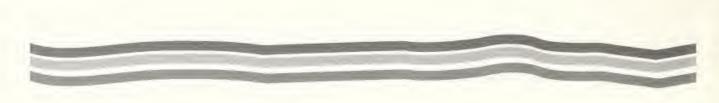
Available Assistance: See above.

Use Restrictions: None.

Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1992: \$2,600,000,000.

Appropriations for the Preceding 3 Fiscal Years: 1989 - \$1,929,362,000; 1990 - \$2,125,958,000; 1991 - \$2,350,000,000.

Obligations: 1988 - \$1,802,430,000; 1989 - \$1,928,926,035; 1990 - \$2,128,980,256.



Office of the Consumer Advisor

The Office of the Consumer Advisor (OCA) establishes, monitors, and maintains USDA policies regarding consumer issues. While OCA does not operate programs for specific populations, it strives to reach and represent consumers from all backgrounds. OCA has two broad functions:

- To represent USDA to consumers, to inform them about the Department's consumer services and programs, and to provide information about consumer issues related to food and agriculture; and
- To represent consumers to USDA, assuring that the Department's policies are consistent with consumers' best interests.

OCA serves as a focal point for coordinating USDA actions on problems and issues of importance to consumers, and it both consults and advises USDA policymakers on consumer issues. When necessary, the Office suggests changes and modifications in practices and policies that affect consumers.

The Office's responsibilities include the development and coordination of ways to facilitate consumer inputs to the Department. OCA also works in cooperation with USDA agencies to inform consumers about the Department's functions, policies,

and procedures so consumers may know where services are found, what the regulations are, and how to participate in these services and programs.

The Office represents the Department in policy discussions related to consumer issues. These may be in meetings with other departments and agencies, and in various public forums.

OCA participates with the Office of Public Affairs, the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, and USDA agency information offices to provide information via distribution of printed materials and use of mass media, and to explain Department policies and functions.

The Office also handles consumer inquiries and complaints, directing them to the agencies best able to respond and to resolve complaints when appropriate, and following up to ensure that complaints are resolved in a timely manner.

Washington Contacts: Information concerning the Office of the Consumer Advisor; USDA policies; and food, agriculture, and consumer issues may be obtained by writing the Director, Office of the Consumer Advisor, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250, or by telephoning (202) 720-3975.

International Affairs and Commodity Programs

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS)

Commodity Loans and Purchases (Price Support)

Nature of Program: The price support program attempts to stabilize farm income, create a balance between the supply and demand for commodities and help farmers in the orderly marketing of their crops by providing cash following harvest.

Eligibility Requirements: The producer must have a history of producing eligible commodities and have complied with production adjustment programs as announced annually by the Secretary of Agriculture. A record of the farming operation must be on file in the county office of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS).

How to Apply: Producers must request a loan and be approved before the final date specified by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Contact: The county ASCS office.

Printed Information: ASCS publishes commodity fact sheets, such as "Feed Grains," which summarize the terms of the present year's program and give historical information on the commodities and how ASCS programs have affected them. Fact sheets are available on burley tobacco, the dairy price support program, extra long staple cotton, flue-cured tobacco, feed grains, honey, mohair, "other" tobaccos [six kinds], peanuts, rice, rye, soybeans, upland cotton, wheat, and wool. ASCS also publishes farm program fact sheets that give relevant details on the year's program for crops, such as "1992 Feed Grain Program", and "Common Provisions for 1992 Crops." Fact sheets are available on assigning program payments, certifying crop acres, the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), dairy indemnity, extra long staple cotton, feed grains, common program provisions, the Conservation Reserve Program, oilseeds [soybeans, sunflower seed, safflower seed, mustard seed, canola, rapeseed, and flaxseed payment eligibility and

limitations, the peanut smart marketing card, rice, upland cotton, and wheat. Farm program factsheets are updated as needed, and commodity factsheets are updated annually. Background information sheets cover "Commodity Credit Corporation" (No. 2) and "Production Adjustment/Price Support" (No. 3). ASCS also has published the leaflet ASCS Programs (Program Aid No. 1424) that summarizes commodity programs in a less technical style than the foregoing publications. The publications offered in Cotton, Feed Grain and Rice Production Stabilization, Printed Information are germane to this program. All ASCS publications are free. Write to: Fact Sheets, ASCS/INFO, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013.

Authorizing Law: The Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 and the Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended, principally, by the Food, Agriculture, and Trade Act of 1990 and the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990.

Administering Agency: ASCS.

Available Assistance: ASCS provides to eligible farmers CCC price-support commodity loans on feed grains, food grains, oilseeds, peanuts, tobacco, upland and long staple cotton, honey, sugar beets, and sugar cane. CCC also provides price support through purchases of feed grains, food grains, and dairy products. Generally, loans are nonrecourse, which means that producers have the option of forfeiting the collateral to CCC. For high-moisture corn and grain sorghum, recourse loans that the producer must repay are offered. In general, when prices for commodities under loan will bring more than the loan amount on the open market, farmers repay loans and sell the commodities.

The Secretary of Agriculture has the authority to permit commodity loan payments at less than the established loan level. Since 1986, upland cotton and rice producers have been permitted to repay commodity loans at less than the established loan level, and beginning in 1991, honey and oilseed producers have been extended the same benefit.



For example, a honey producer can get a loan on any grade of honey at 53.8 cents per pound, then the producer can immediately redeem the loan for 49 cents per pound. (Data as of Jan. 17, 1992; the redemption rate can change.)

Use Restrictions: See: Cotton, Feed Grain and Wheat Production Stabilization, Use Restrictions.

Cotton, Feed Grain, Rice, and Wheat Production Stabilization

Nature of Program: Cotton, feed grains (corn, sorghum, barley and oats), rice, and wheat production stabilization assures adequate production for foreign and at-home use, protects farm income, enhances the competitiveness of U.S. commodities in world markets, and conserves natural resources.

Eligibility Requirements: Participant must be an owner, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper on a farm where the commodity is produced. The farm must meet guidelines announced by the Secretary of Agriculture, and a record of the farming operation must be on file at the county ASCS office.

How To Apply: Apply at the county ASCS office prior to a final date proscribed yearly by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Contact: The county ASCS office.

Printed Information: ASCS commodity factsheets and farm program factsheets for 1992 crops are available for upland and extra long staple cotton, feed grains, oil seeds, rice and wheat. ASCS farm program factsheets are also available on "Certifying Your Cropland Acreage," "Cost Shares for Multi-year ACR Cover," "Assigning ASCS and CCC Program Payments," and "Common Program Provisions for 1992 Crops." The publications listed in Commodity Loans and Purchases, Printed Information are also germane to this program. All publica-

tions are free. Write to Fact Sheets, ASCS/INFO, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013.

Authorizing Law: Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended, principally by the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 and the Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1990.

Administering Agency: ASCS.

Available Assistance: Direct payments to producers.

Use Restrictions: Producers must usually agree to reduce plantings. During 1992, participating producers reduced their historical planting of wheat, corn, sorghum, barley and extra long staple cotton by 5 percent, and upland cotton and by 10 percent. Oat and rice producers were not required to reduce plantings.

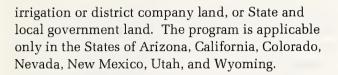
Washington Contacts: Cotton, Grain and Rice Price Support Division, ASCS, Room 3630, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013, or Dairy Division, ASCS, Room 5747-S, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013.

Local Contact: The county ASCS office.

Colorado River Salinity Control Program

Nature of Program: The Colorado River Salinity Control (CRSC) Program provides financial and technical help to identify salt source areas in the Colorado River Basin; to install conservation practices; and to perform research, education, and demonstration activities. It also monitors and evaluates the progress in removing salt from the Colorado River.

Eligibility Requirements: CRSC applies only to lands that lie in an identified salt source area. Lands may be privately owned, Indian tribal lands,



How To Apply: Producers may apply for cost shares at the county ASCS office.

Contact: The county ASCS office.

Printed Information: Fact Sheet: "Colorado River Salinity Control Program."

Authorizing Law: Section 202(c) of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act, as amended [43 U.S.C. 1592 (c)].

Administering Agencies: ASCS, Soil Conservation Service (SCS), the Extension Service (ES), and the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Reclamation.

Available Assistance: Most applications are for cost shares on irrigation devices that reduce salt flow into the watershed. Total fiscal year 1992 funding for all CRSC projects was \$14.8 million.

Use Restrictions: Applicants eligible to participate must have lands that contribute to the project area's salt loading of the Colorado River and are designated as critical areas or salt sources. The Conservation District must approve the salinity control plan for the land, and, as appropriate, the participant may be required to meet a minimum acreage requirement set by the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation county committee.

Washington Contact: Conservation and Environmental Protection Division, ASCS, Room 4714-S, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, D.C. 20013; Land Treatment Program Division, SCS, Room 6036-S, P.O. Box 2890, Washington, D.C. 20013.

Local Contact: The county ASCS office.

Forestry Incentives Program

Nature of Program: The Forestry Incentives Program (FIP) provides cost-sharing for private nonindustrial forest landowners for tree planting and timber stand improvement. The purpose is to increase the Nation's supply of quality timber products from private, non-industrial forest lands by sharing the cost of long-term investment in forest management practices with small landowners who do not have funds to make improvements.

Eligibility Requirements: Landowners must:

- a. Be a private nonindustrial forest landowner.
- b. Own no more than 1,000 acres of forest land unless a waiver is granted in the public interest by the State ASC committee for cost-share assistance on up to 5,000 acres.
- c. Have land suitable for planting trees or improved forest management.
- d. Have land capable of producing industrial wood crops which meets minimum productivity standards.
- e. Complete FIP practices in accordance with an approved forest management plan developed by a forester.

Private entities principally engaged in the business of manufacturing forest products or providing public utilities service of any type, or the subsidiaries of such entities, are not eligible.

Indian tribes or other native groups which meet the eligibility requirements are eligible for costshare assistance. Individual Indians or other native groups on tribal or native land are not eligible for FIP.

How To Apply: Apply at the county ASCS office, no deadlines.

Contact: The county ASCS office or Forest Service (FS) office.

Printed Information: Forestry Incentives Program for the Forest Landowner. (ASCS, FS, and State



Foresters, April 1991) "Conservation/Environmental Protection Programs" (B.I. No. 5) (August 1991), "ASCS Conservation Programs," (Program Aid No. 1355).

Authorizing Law: Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978, as amended by the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990.

Administrating Agencies: ASCS and FS.

Available Assistance: Up to 65 percent cost-sharing for tree planting and timber stand improvement practices.

Use Restrictions: No landowner can receive more than \$10,000 total cost-sharing funds during a program year.

Washington Contacts: Conservation and Environmental Protection Division, ASCS, Room-4714-S, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013 or Director, Cooperative Forestry, FS, Washington, DC 20250.

Local Contacts: The county ASCS office and local FS office.

Related Program: Agricultural Conservation Program (ACP).

Agricultural Conservation Program

Nature of Program: The Agricultural Conservation Program is a cost-share program which helps farmers and ranchers install enduring conservation and pollution abatement practices to help maintain the productive capacity of American agriculture. Emphasis is on implementing enduring conservation practices. County ASC committees review, with selected conservation interests, the conservation needs of the county and prioritized needs.

Eligibility Requirements: By statute, program eligibility is limited to agricultural producers. For program purposes, an agricultural producer is an owner, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper of a farm or ranch used to produce commercial grains, row crops, seed crops, vegetables, hay, pasture, orchards, vineyards, flowers, bulbs, trees, or field-grown ornamentals. Other agricultural commodities are included such as livestock and naval stores such as turpentine or pitch.

How To Apply: Before carrying out any approved practice, a farmer must receive approval for assistance from the county ASC committee. Details of signup periods are available from county ASCS office.

Contact: The county ASCS office.

Printed Information: "Conservation/Environmental Protection Programs," (B.I. No. 5), "Agricultural Conservation Programs," (Program Aid No. 1355). Both free.

Authorizing Law: Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act of 1936, as amended.

Administering Agency: ASCS.

Available Assistance: ACP helps farmers solve conservation problems in several broad practice groups. The program is designed to provide a cost-share for enduring conservation practices, such as:

- -Establishing long-lasting protective ground cover;
- -Improving or sustaining protective cover;
- -Conserving or safely disposing of water;
- -Benefitting wildlife;
- -Establishing or improving stands of trees;
- -Providing protection against or reducing soil erosion:
- -Preventing or abating agriculturally related pollution of water, land, or air;
- -Meeting special county conservation needs.



Generally, up to 75 percent of the cost of approved practices is provided by the Federal Government. Higher rates are authorized for low-income farmers who would otherwise be unable to carry out needed practices.

Use Restrictions: By statute, the total Federal costshare assistance that a person may receive under the ACP on all farms or ranches in the United States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands shall not exceed \$3,500 per fiscal year. However, under pooling agreements the total payment a person may receive shall not exceed \$10,000 minus any cost-shares earned under practices outside the pooling agreements.

Washington Contact: Conservation and Environmental Protection Division, ASCS, Room 4714-S, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013.

Local Contacts: The county ASCS office.

Related Program: Emergency Conservation Program (ECP).

Emergency Conservation Program

Nature of Program: The Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) provides emergency funds for sharing with farmers and ranchers the cost of rehabilitating farmland damaged by wind erosion, floods, hurricanes, or other natural disasters, and for carrying out emergency water conservation measures during periods of severe drought.

Eligibility Requirements: Eligibility for ECP assistance is determined by the County ASC Committee on an individual basis, taking into account the type and extent of damage. Drought eligibility determinations are made at the Washington level.

Contact: The county ASCS office.

How To Apply: Apply at the county ASCS office.

Printed Information: Same as for Agricultural Conservation Program. See foregoing item.

Authorizing Law: Agricultural Credit Act of 1978, as amended.

Administering Agency: ASCS

Available Assistance: ECP offers financial assistance for emergency measures in all States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands that have experienced a disaster of such magnitude that emergency measures are required, as determined by the county ASC committee.

Use Restrictions: The county ASC committee or its representative makes an "on-site" inspection of the area prior to approving requests. These visits are used to determine if damage is of sufficient magnitude to warrant cost-sharing. The natural disaster must be such as to create new conservation problems, which, if not treated, would:

- (1) impair or endanger the land,
- (2) materially affect the productive capacity of the land.
- (3) represent damage that is unusual in character, except for wind erosion, or is not likely to recur frequently in the same area, and
- (4) be so costly to rehabilitate that Federal assistance is, or will be, required in order to return the land to productive agricultural use. Conservation problems existing on eligible lands prior to the disaster involved are not eligible for ECP cost-sharing assistance.

Washington Contact: Conservation and Environmental Protection Division, ASCS, Room 4714-S, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013.



Local Contact: The county ASCS office.

Related Program: Agricultural Conservation Program.

Water Bank Program

Nature of Program: The Water Bank Program (WBP) is designed to preserve and improve major wetlands as habitat for migratory waterfowl and other wildlife; conserve surface waters; reduce runoff, soil, and wind erosion; contribute to flood control; improve water quality; improve subsurface moisture; and enhance the natural beauty of the landscape.

Eligibility Requirements: An eligible person is defined as an owner, landlord, operator, tenant, or sharecropper who has an interest in an eligible farm. This farm must contain lands classified as 1 through 7 wetlands which are identified in a conservation plan developed in cooperation with the Soil and Water Conservation District in which the farm is located. It must also meet other program requirements.

How To Apply: Applications are accepted at the county ASCS office in designated counties.

Whom To Contact: The county ASCS office where the program is being administered.

Printed Information: ASCS Background Information (B.I.) No. 5 "Conservation/Environmental Protection Programs" (August 1991), "ASCS Conservation Programs" (Program Aid No. 1355).

Authorizing Law: Water Bank Law of 1970, as amended.

Administering Agency: ASCS.

Available Assistance: Annual payments are received every year for 10 years of the WBP agreement.

Use Restrictions: Wetlands meeting the program requirements.

Washington Contact: Conservation and Environmental Protection Division, ASCS, Room 4714-S, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013.

Local Contact: The county ASCS office.

Wool and Mohair Payment Program

Nature of Program: The objective of the program is to encourage the domestic production of wool and mohair at prices fair to both producers and consumers in a manner which will assure a viable domestic industry.

Eligibility Requirements: Applicants must have owned the sheep or goats that produced the wool or mohair at the time of shearing and for at least 30 days thereafter. For imported sheep or goats, the applicant must have owned them in the United States for at least 30 days.

How To Apply: Apply at the county ASCS office not later than 60 days after the end of the year in which the wool or mohair was marketed.

Contact: The county ASCS office.

Printed Information: Commodity Fact Sheets: "Wool" and "Mohair."

Authorizing Law: National Wool Act of 1954, as amended.

Administering Agency: ASCS.



Available Assistance: Direct payment to producer based on difference between national average market price and support price. For 1991, the support price was \$1.88 per pound for wool and \$4.48 per pound for mohair.

Use Restrictions: None.

Washington Contacts: Livestock Programs Branch, Emergency Operations and Livestock Programs Division, Room 4095-S, ASCS, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013.

Local Contacts: State and county ASCS offices.

Indian Acute Distress Donation Program

Nature of Program: The objective of this program is to maintain Indian-owned livestock during natural disasters. Feed grains owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) are donated to tribal members during periods of severe drought, flood, hurricane, or other uncontrollable catastrophes affecting Indian land.

Eligibility Requirements: Applicants must be members of a tribe who produce livestock in an area designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as "economically distressed."

How To Apply: For a disaster declaration, a tribe must submit an application through the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to ASCS. Once a tribal area has been designated as eligible, individual tribal members residing on the tribal area may apply at the local BIA office.

Contact: BIA area office.

Authorizing Law: Section 407, Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended.

Printed Information: Factsheet "Emergency Programs."

Administering Agency: BIA and ASCS.

Available Assistance: Donated CCC-owned grain delivered to a central point on the reservation.

Use Restrictions: Restricted to Indian-owned livestock feeding on the reservation.

Washington Contact: Emergency Operations and Livestock Programs Division, ASCS, Room 4095-S, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013.

Local Contact: Area offices for the BIA.

Related Programs: Livestock Feed Program.

Livestock Feed Program

Nature of Program: The Livestock Feed Program (LFP) is a combination of several programs. The objective is to provide emergency feed assistance to eligible livestock owners for the preservation and maintenance of livestock where a natural disaster exists. Indian tribes are eligible to participate in the LFP. One part of the LFP is the Emergency Feed Program (EFP), which pays eligible livestock owners a portion of the cost of feed purchased to replace that which is normally produced on the farm. Another part of the LFP is the Emergency Feed Assistance Program (EFAP), which provides for the sale of CCC-owned grain or the livestock owner's own farm-stored loan grain at 50 percent of the average market price in the county where the grain is stored.

Eligibility Requirements: A livestock owner must have suffered, due to natural disaster, a 40-percent loss of feed production on the farm, resulting in a need for purchases of feed in quantities larger than normal for eligibility determinations.



How To Apply: Apply at the county ASCS office. Livestock owners must furnish crop loss and eligible livestock information for eligibility determinations.

Contact: ASCS county office in a county approved to implement the program or ASCS county offices in contiguous counties.

Printed Information Available: Farm Program Fact Sheet: "ASCS Emergency Programs."

Authorizing Law: The Agricultural Act of 1949, as amended.

Administering Agency: ASCS.

Use Restrictions: Producer must be eligible and request LFP through approved country ASCS offices authorized to implement LFP.

Washington Contact: Emergency Operations and Livestock Programs Division, ASCS, Room 4095-S, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013.

Local Contact: State and county ASCS offices.

Related Program: Indian Acute Distress Donation Program.

Conservation Reserve Program

Nature of Program: The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) encourages farmers, through 10- to 15-year contracts with annual rental payments on eligible cropland, to plant protective cover of grass or trees. CRP cropland eligibility has recently been expanded to improve water quality. Eligible land now includes environmentally sensitive cropland and areas adjacent to lakes or streams that can be devoted to filterstrips.

Eligibility Requirements: Eligible cropland must be owned or operated for not less than 3 years prior to the close of the announced signup period, unless the land was acquired by will or succession or unless the USDA determines that ownership was not acquired for the purpose of placing the land in the CRP. Eligibility is limited to "highly erodible" cropland and areas with identified water quality impairment, designated priority areas, and public wellhead areas identified by the Environmental Protection Agency. Areas designated by States as sources of water quality problems may also be eligible for designation in CRP.

How To Apply: Producers submit bids stating an annual rental payment they would accept to convert eligible cropland to permanent vegetative cover. This bid is submitted to the county ASCS office during an announced signup period. USDA will notify persons whose bids are accepted after the close of the signup period. The participant, in return for annual payments, agrees to implement a conservation plan approved by the local conservation district for converting this land to a less intensive use.

Contact: Apply at the county ASCS office.

Printed Information: "Conservation/Environmental Protection Programs" (August 1991, B.I. No. 5), and "ASCS Conservation Programs" (Program Aid No. 1355).

Authorizing Law: Food Security Act of 1985, as amended by the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990.

Administering Agency: ASCS.

Assistance Available: Through 10- to 15-year contracts and annual payments, the CRP helps farmers protect the Nation's long-term capability to produce food and fiber, reduce soil erosion and sedimentation, improve water quality, create a better



habitat for fish and wildlife, and curb excess production of some commodities.

Use Restrictions: The CRP provides direct payments for specified use. Annual rental payments of up to \$50,000 per year will be made to eligible owners or operators who enter into a contract to convert eligible land to permanent vegetative cover. In addition to the rental payment, USDA will pay up to 50 percent of the cost of establishing permanent vegetative cover.

Washington Contact: Conservation and Environmental Protection Division, ASCS, Room 4714-S, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013.

Local Contact: The county ASCS office.

Wetlands Reserve Program

Nature of Program: ASCS will purchase permanent or long-term easements from owners who agree to restore farmed and converted wetlands. The goal is to enroll 1 million acres by the end of 1995.

Eligibility Requirements: It was proposed that for fiscal year 1992 only eligible landowners in California, Iowa, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, and Wisconsin might participate.

How To Apply: An eligible landowner must first submit an intention to participate to the local

ASCS county office during a signup period. After a wetlands restoration plan is developed, the landowner must submit a bid to participate and agree to grant an easement to ASCS.

Contact: The county ASCS office.

Printed Information: ASCS Fact Sheet, "Wetlands Reserve Program."

Authorizing Laws: The Food Security Act of 1985, as amended by the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990.

Available Assistance: The Wetlands Reserve Program was funded at \$46.4 million for 1992. If the land offered is eligible, and the compensation requested is acceptable, cost-share assistance up to 75 percent may be provided to restore the land under easement.

Use Restrictions: Wetlands converted after December 23, 1985, are not eligible. Also, there must be a likelihood of successful restoration.

Administering Agencies: ASCS, SCS, and the U.S. Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service.

Washington Contact: Conservation and Environmental Protection Division, ASCS, Room 4714-S. P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC 20013.

Local Contact: The county ASCS office.



Foreign Agricultural Service

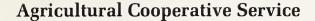
The Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) has a number of programs that can benefit American Indians or tribes. Such programs include:

- (a) AgExport Connections. An export expansion program functioning as a liaison between U.S. companies and foreign buyers seeking U.S. food and agricultural products.
- (b) Export Briefs. A weekly bulletin which includes all trade leads—from overseas' buyers—processed each week. It is targeted toward export agents, trade associations, and companies interested in export opportunities for a variety of agricultural and food products.
- (c) Buyer Alert. A service offered by the AgExport Connections program using high-speed telecommunication links. The AgExport Connections staff in Washington, D.C., forwards sales announcements of featured products to interested overseas buyers. This communication network can place information about U.S. products into the hands of foreign buyers who seek U.S. products for purchase.
- (d) Foreign Buyer Lists. AgExport Connections can provide U.S. exporters with lists of foreign

buyers. Currently 12,000 importers in 56 countries are listed in the data base.

- (e) Food and Agricultural Trade Shows. Trade shows are one of the most effective means of introducing and promoting food products overseas. FAS sponsors about 15 major trade shows annually. Participation is normally on a first-come, first-served basis.
- (f) The Trade Assistance and Planning Office (TAPO). This office provides a single point of contact within FAS for agricultural exporters who need foreign market information, as well as for those who believe they have been injured by unfair trade practices. The office provides information and assistance to persons interested in participating in export programs carried out by FAS and the Commodity Credit Corporation. It also helps in getting information on programs important to agricultural exporters which are run by other Federal agencies, such as the Export-Import Bank, the U.S. Department of Commerce, and the Small Business Administration. The trade office prepares several annual reports which may be of interest to U.S. agricultural exporters.

Marketing and Inspection Services



Nature of Program: Agricultural Cooperative Service (ACS) carries out programs in research and technical and in educational assistance to help improve the effectiveness of cooperatives owned by agricultural producers and other rural residents. The agency helps farmers and other rural residents through cooperative action to obtain supplies and services at lower costs and to get better prices for the products they sell. ACS also helps rural residents combine resources through cooperative action to enhance rural living. ACS does not have grant or loan authority.

Eligibility Requirements: Applicants must be rural and farmer cooperatives, groups of farmers, or other rural residents interested in forming cooperatives or improving the effectiveness of existing cooperatives.

How To Apply: A cooperative's request for technical assistance should come from its board of directors. Requests for assistance in forming a cooperative should be submitted in writing by an individual or leadership group on behalf of producers or rural residents. For example, a Tribal Council could make this request.

Whom To Contact: Dr. Randall E. Torgerson, Administrator, ACS, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), P.O. Box 96576, Washington, DC 20090-6576. (202) 245-5358.

Printed Information Available: Catalog of more than 100 publications on farmer cooperatives available. Monthly periodical: Farmer Cooperatives. Annual subscription fee is \$14, checks payable to Superintendent of Documents.

Authorization: Capper-Volstead Act of 1922; Cooperative Marketing Act of 1926; 7 U.S.C. 451-457; Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946; 7 U.S.C. 1621-1627.

Administering Agency: ACS.

Available Assistance: Technical and educational assistance in the formation and operation of cooperatives.

Use Restrictions: Rural residents and producers of handicraft, agricultural, forestry, and aquacultural products.

Appropriations: Not specifically applicable.

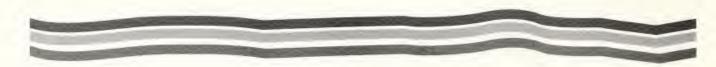
Washington Contact: Gerald E. Ely, ACS, USDA, P.O. Box 96576, Washington, DC 20090-6576. (202) 720-3350.

Local Contacts: ACS, USDA, Room 305, Federal Building, 154 Waianuenue Ave., Hilo, HI 96720. (808) 935-3701.

ACS, USDA, Federal Building, Century Station Room 435, 300 Fayetteville St., Raleigh, NC 27603. (919) 856-4656.

ACS, USDA, Ag Administration Building, Room 104, 2120 Fyffe Rd., Columbus, OH 43210. (614) 292-7912.

Natural Resources and Environment



Forest Service

The Forest Service (FS) is a leader in the conservation and wise use of the Nation's forests and rangelands. The agency is steward of 156 national forests comprising 191 million acres in 42 States. It also administers 83 experimental forests and ranges, 19 grasslands, and 15 land utilization projects. The Forest Service works with State forestry organizations to help private landowners, including Indian tribes and landowners, to apply good forest practices. The Forest Service performs research to find better ways to manage and use our national resources. The Forest Service also assists in international forestry matters.

The Forest Service performs a mix of programs and activities and conducts business with numerous partners, including increasing activity with Indian tribes.

First, the Forest Service has established a Tribal Government Policy and Program to strengthen a growing relationship with Indian tribes. The program is located in State and Private Forestry at the Washington Office level. Tribal Government staff are also located across the FS regions and some stations. Telephone for the Washington Office: (202) 205-0892. The policy guiding the program is found in Forest Service Manual directive 1563.

A second agency action has been the agency-wide employment of American Indians and Alaska Natives. Currently, the FS work force includes about 1,625 Native Americans. As of June 1991, this figure equaled 4.5 percent of the total FS work-force of 35,594 people employed as of June 1991. This compares favorably with the 0.52 percent availability as reflected in the Bureau of the Census, Civilian Labor Force estimates.

Third, a special focus on specific programs is assisting the agency to improve relationships or partnerships with American Indians. Some examples are:

- (a) A recruitment partnership with Haskell Indian Junior College (Lawrence, Kansas) which involves establishing a natural resource curriculum. Transferral agree ments have been established with 4-year colleges and universities so that bachelor's or advanced degrees can be obtained by the students beginning at Haskell.
- (b) A partnership has been established with the Southwestern Indian Polytechnical Institute (Albuquerque, New Mexico), which established a natural resource tech nical program and student summer employment program in the region.
- (c) A Native American Education Liaison Pilot Program is underway in the Rocky Moun tain Region and Station (Denver and Fort Collins, Colorado, and Rapid City, South Dakota). This pilot program will develop research and environmental programs with tribal colleges, extending agency programs to tribal governments and exchanging and sharing technical staffs and skills.
- (d) Numerous field practicums, some in cosponsorship with tribes, provide a field natural resource exercise and experience for Indian youth. These practicums are: Enhancing tribal relationships, inspiring youth interest in natural resource and envi ronmental management, providing career options, and providing knowledge of the management and care of the national forests and rangelands.
- (e) The employment of Indian and Alaska Native fire crews continues to benefit both the agency, in fire management programs and activities, and individual crew mem bers. This relationship is a long-standing and rewarding one for all involved.



A fourth area of significant relationship with Indian tribes and Alaska Natives has been in the area of forestry technical assistance. With and through the Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior (USDI), assistance has been provided to tribes in such areas as utilization and marketing of natural resources, watershed programs, forestation and tree improvement, general natural resource planning and development, and pest management.

Primary FS programs are described as follows.

Range Management Program

Assistance Available: Grazing permits are granted but few permits are available simply by asking. Although an applicant stands a slight chance of getting a permit by applying directly to the Forest Service, the most likely opportunity is through the "permit waiver" process. This means that an applicant must buy either (1) the permitted livestock or (2) the base property of an established permittee who signs a waiver to the Forest Service for the permit. The agency then issues a permit to the eligible and qualified buyer of the permitted livestock or base property. The permit waiver process is established by Federal law and regulation. Through this process an applicant can obtain a permit held by a current permittee. Grazing fees will apply.

For More Information: Contact the nearest national forest or ranger district.

Special Land Use Program

Special use authorizations are issued to use National Forest System lands for specific purposes under specific conditions. A special use permit or other appropriate authorization such as that for pastures, fences, roads and trails, buildings, water developments, resorts, and commercial enterprises is required for the occupancy and use of these lands.

Eligibility: Any individual, partnership, group, or other business entity, and any agency of the Federal, State, or local government is eligible for consideration for a special use authorization.

How To Apply: Persons proposing to establish a use on lands within a national forest or national grassland should contact—in person if possible the local Forest Service office responsible for the lands to be affected so that potential constraints may be identified, the proposal can be considered in land management plans, and processing of an application can be scheduled. Applications may be made by letter or bid in response to a prospectus and are filed with the district ranger or forest supervisor having jurisdiction over the affected land. The responsible officer may require additional information from which to determine approval or denial of the application. A written response will be provided to the applicant in a timely manner. No privileges are conveyed until a special use authorization is issued.

For More Information: Write or call the Lands Staff, FS, USDA, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090. (202) 205-1256.

Senior Community Service Employment Program

Assistance Available: The threefold purpose of this program is (1) to provide part-time employment and a supplement to the income of an elderly, low-income person; (2) to provide training that enhances such a person's opportunity for transition into the regular labor market; and (3) to provide senior citizens an opportunity to participate in community service work. Participants must be at least 55 years of age and meet the low-income eligibility guidelines established by the Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor.



How To Apply: Contact the local FS or Employment Service office.

For More Information: Write or call the Human Resources Program, FS, USDA, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090. (703) 235-8834.

Cooperative Forest Management Program

Assistance Available: Technical assistance is provided for forest management, improved harvesting and wood utilization, tree improvement, nursery production, forest resource planning, and urban forestry.

How To Apply: Individual landowners or groups needing technical assistance should apply through their State forestry agency.

For More Information: Write or call Cooperative Forestry, FS, USDA, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090. (202) 205-1374.

Forest Products Utilization Program

Assistance Available: Technical assistance is available to individuals and commercial operations involved in the harvesting, processing (milling), and marketing of timber products.

How To Apply: Individual landowners or groups needing technical assistance should apply through their State forestry agency or the nearest Forest Service regional office. For More Information: Write or call Cooperative Forestry, FS, USDA, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090. (202) 205-1383.

Forest Pest Management Program

Assistance Available: Technical and financial assistance is available for detecting, evaluating, and controlling outbreaks of forest insects and diseases on federal, State and private lands when such action is in the public interest.

How To Apply: Contact should be made in the following order of priority: (1) Bureau of Indian Affairs, USDI. Branch of Forest Resource Planning, 911 NE 11th Avenue, Portland, OR 97232-4169; telephone (503) 231-6796; (2) Nearest USDA Forest Service regional office and in the Northeastern United States, the Northeast State and Private Forestry Office; telephone: (215) 975-4125; and (3) FS, USDA, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090. (202) 205-0600.

Forestry Incentives Program

Assistance Available: Cost-sharing is provided to private nonindustrial forest landowners, including Indian tribes, for treeplanting and timber stand improvement. To qualify, a landowner must (1) be a private forest landowner, (2) own a tract of land with no more than 5,000 acres of eligible forest land, (3) own land that is suitable for forestation and timber stand improvement, and (4) own land capable of producing industrial wood crops which meet minimum productivity standards.

How To Apply: Contact the county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) office or local State forestry agency office.

For More Information:

Write or call either:

- (1) Cooperative Forestry, FS, USDA, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090. (202) 205-9600, or
- (2) Conservation and Environment Protection Division, ASCS, USDA, Washington, DC 20250. (202) 720-6221.

Free Use Timber Program

Free use of timber from the national forests may be granted to residents of the area in which the forest is located. Use of such timber is for nonprofit purposes only.

How To Apply: Contact the district ranger or the forest supervisor at the nearest Forest Service location.

For More Information: Write or call Timber Management, FS, USDA, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090. (202) 205-0854.

Job Corps Civilian Conservation Program

Assistance Available: Both educational and vocational training are provided to out-of-school, unemployed young people between the ages of 16 and 21 who need such training to gain meaningful employment.

How To Apply: Contact the local State employment office or the nearest Forest Service office.

For More Information: Write or call the Peter E. Rell, Director of Job Corps, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N4510 Frances Perkins Building, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210. (202) 535-0550

Rural Community Fire Protection Program

Assistance Available: Cost-sharing (50 percent matching funds) is provided to rural areas and to communities with a population under 10,000 for organizing, training, and equipping rural firefighting forces. Unprotected or poorly protected communities receive priority. Federal excess property is available to rural communities for firefighting; it may need modification or upgrading.

How to Apply: Contact a State forester or the local State forestry office.

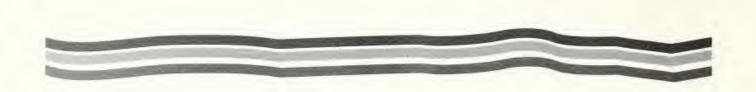
For More Information: Write or call Cooperative Fire Protection, FS, USDA, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090. (202) 205-1511.

Forest Stewardship Program

Assistance Available: Technical assistance is available to private nonindustrial forest landowners, including Indian tribes, for preparing a landowner forest stewardship plan to meet the landowner objectives, and for addressing actions needed to protect and enhance soil, water, range, aesthetics, recreation, timber, and fish and wildlife resources.

How To Apply: Individual landowners or groups needing technical assistance should apply through their State forestry agency.

For More Information: Write or call Cooperative Forestry, FS, USDA, P.O. Box 969090, Washington, DC 20090-6090. (202) 205-1375.



Stewardship Incentive Program

Assistance Available: Cost-sharing is provided to private nonindustrial forest landowners, including Indian tribes, for tree planting and improvement, windbreak establishment, soil and water protection, fish and wildlife enhancement, aesthetics, and forest recreation. To qualify, a landowner must (1) be a private forest landowner, and (2) own no more than 1,000 acres of eligible forest land (or 5,000 acres with a waiver from the State forester.)

How To Apply: Contact the local State forestry agency office or county ASCS office.

Timber Sale Program

Assistance Available: National forest timber, including logs for lumber and plywood, wood fiber for paper, fuelwood, posts, poles, and Christmas trees, is available for sale to interested parties. The local district ranger may handle such transactions.

How To Apply: Contact the district ranger or the forest supervisor at the nearest national forest.

For More Information: Write or call Timber Management, FS, USDA, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090. (202) 205-0854.

Youth Conservation Corps

Assistance Available: A program of summer employment is provided for young men and women to further the development of the natural resources of the United States. Projects are located on lands administered by the Forest Service, the National Park Service of the U.S. Department of the Interior (USDI), and the Fish and Wildlife Service, also of USDI. Applicants must be age 15-18; must be permanent residents of the United States, its territories or possessions; must have no history of serious criminal or other antisocial behavior; must be physically qualified to participate fully in various work and training projects of the program; and must have, or be able to obtain, a work permit if one is required under the laws of the State in which they will be working.

How To Apply: Applications may be obtained from local Forest Service and National Park Service offices, and from National Wildlife Refuge and National Fish Hatchery headquarters offices.

For More Information: Write or call Human Resources Program, FS, USDA, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090. (703) 235-8834.



Soil Conservation Service

American Indians and Alaska Natives are eligible to participate in all Soil Conservation Service (SCS) programs on the same basis as non-Indians. The demand for SCS services by Native American tribal groups continues to increase as the value of SCS assistance becomes better understood.

Assistance provided includes, but is not limited to, the following:

Conservation planning on cropland, pastureland, and rangeland and assistance to apply rangeland management and improvement practices, irrigation water development structures and management, brush control, erosion control structures, agriculture, forestry, salinity control, land treatment for watershed programs activities, no-till conservation tillage, and soil interpretations for various land uses.

In addition to cost-sharing available through the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) as noted on previous pages, SCS provides cost-sharing for conservation practices under certain programs, namely Public Law 83-566 Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention programs, Resource Conservation and Development Program (RC&D), and Great Plains Conservation Program (GPCP).

Three actions have increased Indian access to SCS programs and assistance:

(1) Authorization of Indian tribes to be legal sponsors of watershed projects,

- (2) the 1977 USDA Office of the General Counsel review of policy and the resulting determination that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) can provide the same assistance, through conservation districts, to Indians and Alaska Natives on their lands as it does to non-Indians, and
- (3) the establishment, in 1980, of the USDA policy to provide conservation assistance through conservation districts organized under Indian or Federal law.

One new action will significantly increase Indian access to programs and services. Section 2501(g) of the 1990 Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act (FACTA) requires certain USDA agencies, including SCS, ASCS, and the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) to establish suboffices at tribal headquarters, if requested by tribes.

SCS gives technical help in soil and water conservation to individual landowners and operators, organizations, and city, county, and State governments, through nearly 3,000 local soil and water conservation districts. It provides technical and financial help for watershed protection and flood prevention, resource conservation and development, and GPCP. Natural resource information is available to land use officials for planning and maintaining housing, schools, water supply, highways, and recreational facilities.

Primary SCS programs are described in more detail on the following pages.



Soil Survey Program

Assistance Available: Published soil surveys of counties or other comparably sized areas are available for use by interested agencies, organizations, and individuals. Many of the soil surveys include Indian land both on and off reservations. Soil surveys are in progress on other reservations. They contain basic and detailed information needed for agricultural and natural resource development programs.

How To Apply: An applicant should contact his or her county SCS Office, local Extension Service, the State Agricultural Experiment Station, the nearest Agricultural Service Center or Soil Conservation District Office, or local Member of Congress.

For More Information: Contact Director of Soils, SCS, USDA, Washington, DC 20250; telephone: (202) 720-1819.

Technical Assistance Program

Assistance Available: Through its field offices and local conservation districts. SCS helps farm and ranch owners and operators plan and apply more than 100 conservation practices to manage, conserve, improve, and develop soil, water, and related resources. SCS has expertise in agronomy, range management, forestry, agricultural engineering, soils, water management, wildlife habitat management, recreation, aquaculture, rural development, resource inventories, and watershed and flood protection.

The Service provides technical assistance to Indian communities through Tribal Councils handling natural resource conservation programs and other rural development activities.

Technical assistance is coordinated at the national level by the SCS Conservation Planning Division. Field office personnel provide assistance upon request to individuals, district cooperators, Indian tribes, Tribal Councils, or other community leadership. Through participation in national, State, and local Field Advisory Committees (FAC's), SCS can help Indian community leaders access USDA program benefits.

How To Apply: Contact the county SCS Office, Conservation District Office, or the nearest Agriculture Service Center.

For More Information: Contact the Director of Conservation Planning Division, SCS, USDA, Washington, DC 20250; telephone: (202) 720-1845.

Great Plains Conservation Program

Assistance Available: Technical help and costsharing assistance are available to individual farmers and ranchers in selected counties in the 10 Great Plains States: Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wyoming.

Technical assistance is provided in developing conservation and management plans with the land operator. The plan includes land treatment and management practices needed to control wind and water erosion. It is submitted as part of an application which, if approved, can be incorporated into a Great Plains Conservation contract.

The contract extends from 3 (minimum) to 10 years (maximum). The plan and contract are agreed to by both SCS and the farmer or rancher prior to final approval. Cost-share assistance can be provided for contract items such as physical land treatment or improvements such as range seeding, terracing, erosion control structures, fences, etc.

How To Apply: Contact the county SCS Office, Conservation District, or the nearest Agriculture Service Center.



For More Information:

Contact Director of Land Treatment Program, SCS, USDA, Washington, DC 20250; telephone (202) 720-1870.

Resource Conservation and Development Program

Assistance Available: Both technical and financial assistance are available to help local people in initiating and carrying out long-range programs of Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D).

RC&D assistance may be used on reservation lands for public water-based recreation and fish and wildlife developments or on private lands owned or operated by American Indians for flood prevention, sedimentation and erosion control, farm irrigation, water quality management, and control and abatement of agriculture-related pollution. The RC&D Project Steering Committee and local leadership plan and carry out associated project measures funded by other non-USDA entities, both Federal and private. Associated measures deal with any project the RC&D and local people need and approve.

How To Apply: Contact the county SCS Office, Conservation District Office, RC&D Coordinator's Office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information; Contact Director of Basin and Area Planning Division, SCS, USDA, Washington, DC 20250. (202) 720-8766.

Native American Liaison

Assistance Available: SCS has a Native American liaison or coordinator located in National Head-quarters. The coordinator's role is to work with tribes and various Indian groups to improve technical assistance to Native Americans and to increase their participation in SCS and USDA programs.

For More Information or Assistance: Contact Native American Liaison, SCS, USDA, Washington, DC 20250; telephone: (202) 720-1868.

Watershed Projects

Assistance Available: Watershed projects begin with local initiative and responsibility. Local proposals are reviewed by the State, which may make financial and other assistance available. Federal technical and financial assistance is also available.

State agencies, Indian tribes, and nonprofit local organizations can sponsor a watershed project. Watershed projects help cities, towns, and rural areas stimulate economic growth. Where projects are developed for multiple purposes, both urban and rural areas benefit. Control of flooding, erosion, and siltation reduces risks in farming and lowers the cost of maintaining roads and bridges. It also reduces reservoir sedimentation and prevents costly flood damage in urban communities.

Reservoirs built through watershed projects provide opportunities for fishing, boating, swimming, and other recreation. They supply water for irrigation, municipal use, and industry.

A watershed project has an immediate and positive effect on the economy of rural communities, and it often acts as a catalyst for a wide range of rural development actions.

Watershed works of improvement (flood control dams, diversion channels, land treatment, etc.) provide multiple rural development benefits that can best be optimized when the projects are included in local rural development plans.

How To Apply: Contact the county SCS office, or the nearest Agricultural Service Center.

For More Information: Contact Director of Water Projects Division, SCS, USDA, Washington, DC 20250; telephone: (202) 382-9478.

Science and Education



Cooperative State Research Service

The Cooperative State Research Service (CSRS) is USDA's principal link to the university system in the United States for conducting agricultural research. CSRS participates in a nationwide system of agricultural research program planning and coordination among the State institutions, USDA, and the agricultural industry as a whole.

The CSRS mission is to advance science and technology in support of agriculture, forestry, people, and communities, in partnership with the State Agricultural Experiment System, colleges, universities, and other research organizations, and in consonance with the Secretary of Agriculture's policies and the intent of Congress. CSRS objectives include improving USDA cooperation with other Federal, State, and private participants in the agricultural research community, and helping USDA to become a more useful and responsive Federal agency.

CSRS has several programs that can benefit American Indians and Alaska Natives, two of the most important of which are described below.

Office for Small-Scale Agriculture

Nature of Program: The Office for Small-Scale Agriculture (OSSA) was created to improve the flow of information about small-scale farming to agricultural producers and consumers. A diverse selection of information materials is available to the public, including a brochure, a quarterly newsletter for national distribution, a series of fact-sheets focusing on popular small-scale enterprises, and a video presentation featuring diversification.

The factsheets deal with these topics: Mushrooms, Sheep, Wildflowers, Foliage Plants, Goats, Specialty Vegetables, Herbs, Exotic Fruits, Dessert

Vines, Exotic Livestock, Woodlots, Specialty Flowers, Aquaculture, Strawberries, Beekeeping, Brambles, Specialty Potatoes, and Specialty Corn.

For More Information: Contact OSSA at CSRS, Room 328-A, Aerospace Building, USDA, Washington, DC 20250-2200. Telephone: (202) 401-1805; facsimile: (202) 475-3179.

Sustainable Agriculture

Nature of Program: The Sustainable Agriculture program develops and disseminates to farmers practical and reliable information on sustainable farming practices. Current activities emphasize projects that deal with the feasibility of "sustainable agriculture" practices, as well as the communication of results to farmers on topics as diverse as low-input methods of producing apples in the Northeast, use of cover crops to reduce leaching of nutrients to ground water, teaching farmers profitable and year-round forage management, using intensive rotational grazing; low-input ridge tillage techniques in the Corn Belt; legumes and annual summer forage crops to reduce the need for purchased fertilizer and herbicides to grow blueberries in the South; the productivity and profitability of low-input versus high-input vegetable production systems in California; and the use of legumes and other green manures in the cropping systems of the northern Plains.

For More Information: Contact the Director of Special Programs at CSRS, Room 342-D, Aerospace Building, USDA, Washington, DC 20250-2200. Telephone: (202) 401-4860.



Extension Service

As the educational arm of USDA, the Extension Service (ES) is responsible for carrying out educational programs in cooperation with the State cooperative extension services located in the land-grant colleges and universities. These State cooperative extension services develop educational programs to provide information and technical assistance in agriculture, home economics, and related fields to the general public.

The ES, therefore, does not work directly with American Indian tribes, Alaska Native communities, or Native Hawaiians to provide these educational services but rather works through the cooperative extension service operated by each State. It is estimated that, in fiscal year 1989, \$4,200,000 in Federal funds were expended through ES for extension activities with American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians.

Section 1677 of the 1990 farm bill authorized extension programs serving reservations and tribal jurisdictions. The Congress appropriated \$1.0 million for this program for fiscal year 1991.

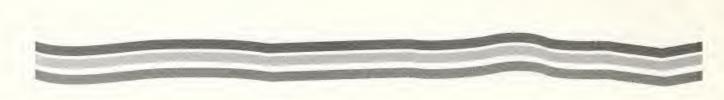
The work of the Cooperative Extension System was established by the Smith-Lever Act of May 8, 1914, as amended (7 U.S.C. 341-349). This legislation authorizes USDA to provide, through the landgrant college system, cooperative extension work which consists of educational programs in agriculture, family living, nutrition, youth development, and community development. This work is further emphasized in the amendments to the Smith-Lever Act and various provisions of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act

of 1977, including Section 1444, which authorizes the funding of extension work through the 1890 land-grant colleges, and Section 1677 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (1990 farm bill).

Available Assistance: Payments are made to State land-grant institutions on a formula basis or on a project proposal basis for approved projects. The funds appropriated under Section 1677 have been distributed to the States on the basis of project proposals. In FY 1991, 14 proposals were selected for funding. Extension agent positions were established at the following 10 sites: Alaska - Athapaskan; California - Hoopa Valley; Washington -Chahalis; Arizona - Hopi; Wyoming - Wind River; New Mexico - Jicarilla; Montana - Fort Belknap; South Dakota - Pine Ridge; North Dakota - Fort Berthold; and tri-State (Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah) - Navajo. Four short-term special projects were funded: Minnesota - White Earth; Mississippi -Choctaw; Oklahoma - Muskogee Creek and Choctaw: and Idaho - Fort Hall.

Printed Information Available: Information on this program is available at State and county Cooperative Extension offices; USDA publications may be obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250.

Whom To Contact: For information regarding programs, contact local county Extension Service offi-



cials, the State Extension Director at the State landgrant institution, or ES, Washington, DC 20250.

Authorizing Legislation: Smith-Lever Act of May 8, 1914 (7 U.S.C. 341-349) (1988), as amended; Section 1444 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 32221); and Section 1677 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990.

Administering Agency: ES.

Available Assistance: Formula and special earmarked funds are provided to the 1862 and 1890 land-grant institutions.

Use Restrictions: Educational and technical assistance is provided in the broad areas of agriculture, home economics, and related fields.

FY 1991 Appropriations: \$398,478,000.

Earlier appropriations: FY 1989: \$361,870,000; FY 1990: \$369,180,000.

Local Contacts Throughout the United States: County and State extension offices.

Related Programs: None.

National Agricultural Library

Available Assistance: The Food and Nutrition Information Center (FNIC) at the National Agricultural Library (NAL) provides technical assistance and lending service to persons working with American Indian and Alaska Native food and nutrition programs. USDA's Food and Nutrition Service provides significant financial support for operation of the FNIC.

Printed Information Available: Personnel working with American Indian and Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian people may call or write FNIC for answers to food and nutrition questions, computerized literature searches, and lists of nutrition education materials available for loan. Materials, such as videos and books, may be borrowed for up to 30 days. Copies of journal articles can be requested free of charge. Also, twice each year FNIC sends a packet of materials, including a short newsletter about FNIC and new publications, to nutrition education contacts for both the Food Distribution Program for Indian Reservations (FDPIR) and Indian Health Service (IHS).

Whom To Contact: For various documents on resources, including the Pathfinder, which lists published materials to help prepare professionals and paraprofessionals to broaden their awareness of the unique customs and practices of American Indians and Alaska Natives, write to USDA's Food and Nutrition Information Center, National Agricultural Library, 10301 Baltimore Boulevard, Beltsville, MD 20705. Telephone: (301) 504-5719.

Small Community and Rural Development



Farmers Home Administration

Indian Outreach Program

Goals: The FmHA American Indian Outreach Program is a concerted effort by Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) officials to:

- (a) Make all FmHA programs more accessible and available to Indians living on and off reservations:
- (b) Identify and remove problems and obstacles that prevent the participation by eligible Indians and Indian tribes in FmHA programs;
- (c) Increase the number of FmHA loans and grants going to American Indians both on and off reservations:
- (d) Provide pamphlets, publications, and information on FmHA programs to individual Indians, Indian tribes and tribal leaders, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) personnel, and other interested groups and individuals.

Field action: State coordinators of Indian activities appointed by State directors will:

- (a) Maintain close liaison with local FmHA supervisors and officials serving Indian populations and reservations;
- (b) Work closely with local District, State, and National Office representatives to remove obstacles and solve problems that impede the use of FmHA programs on Indian reservations;
- (c) Be familiar with all FmHA loan and grant programs available to Indians living on and off reservations, including the types of security and eligibility requirements;
- (d) Be aware of any unique relationship that may exist between Indians and the Federal and State Governments affecting Indian participation in the FmHA loan and grant programs;
- (e) As necessary, attend pertinent meetings of Indian groups, government agencies, and others concerned with the economic and social development of Indians:
- (f) When feasible, become personally acquainted with Indian leaders and non-Indian leaders in Indian affairs within the States:

(g) Arrange for the training of members of Indian tribes, individuals, and interested groups involved in Indian affairs, in the packaging and distribution of materials for use in FmHA loan and grant programs.

FmHA publications: FmHA publications, such as "Rural Credit for American Indians," a handbook of FmHA programs, and "FmHA Credit for American Indians," and other materials to be developed, will be used as supplementary training and informational aids for Indian communities, individuals, governmental agencies, and other groups involved in Indian affairs.

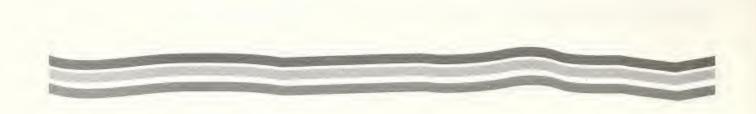
Reports:

- (a) State Directors are required to keep the National Office advised of any problems or obstacles in FmHA's procedures relating to Indian laws or customs that cannot be resolved locally and which prevent American Indians from participating in the FmHA programs on or off the reservations.
- (b) Any changes in personnel serving as State Coordinator of Indian activities are reported to the National Office.
- (c) Each State director is required to make a semiannual report on January 1 and July 1 of each year on the activities and accomplishments in his or her State. The report specifically reflects what has been done to carry out the goals of this program. The report is sent to the National Office, Attention, Director of Native American Programs.

Whom To Contact: Contact County and District FmHA offices.

Printed Information: "Rural Credit for American Indians," and "FmHA Credit for American Indians."

Administering Agency: USDA, FmHA.



Washington Contact: Director of Native American Programs; telephone (202) 690-1890.

Local Contact: Local county and district FmHA offices.

Related Programs: All FmHA loan and grant programs are available to Indians and Indian tribes.

Indian Land Acquisition Program

Nature and Purpose: The Indian Land Acquisition loan program is to assist tribes to purchase lands within their reservations, primarily to eliminate fractional heirships and to round out farm and ranch units.

Eligibility Requirements: Any Indian tribe recognized by the Secretary of the Interior, or a tribal corporation established in accordance with the Indian Reorganization Act.

How To Apply: Contact county FmHA office.

Whom To Contact: County FmHA office

Printed Information Available: FmHA publication: "Indian Tribal Loans for Purchase of Land" (PA-1270).

Authorizing Legislation: Indian Tribal Loan Acquisition Act, Public Law 91-229, 25 U.S.C. 488.

Administering Agency: USDA, FmHA.

Available Assistance: Insured loans.

Use Restrictions: Loan funds may be used to buy lands or acquire interest in lands within an Indian reservation or an Alaskan Indian community incorporated in conformity with the Indian Reorganization Act. Loan funds may not be used for build-

ings, land development, equipment, or operating expenses.

Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1990: \$1,000,000

Appropriations for Fiscal Years 1989, 1988 and 1987: 1989 — \$2,000,000; 1988 — \$2,000,000; 1987 — \$2,000,000.

Obligations Incurred: Fiscal year 1989 — \$120,000; 1988 — \$461,330; and 1987 — \$2,000,000.

Washington Contact: Administrator, FmHA, USDA, Washington, DC 20250. (202) 690-1533.

Local Contact: Local FmHA office.

Related Programs: Most other FmHA programs may be used in conjunction with this.

Farm Ownership Loan Program

Nature and Purpose: The farm ownership loan program is intended to assist eligible farmers and ranchers to become owner-operators of family farms. The operations may include establishment or enlargement of nonfarm enterprises to supplement farm income. These objectives will be accomplished through the extension of credit and supervisory assistance.

Eligibility Requirements: Citizens of legal age who have sufficient farm experience or training to assure reasonable prospects of success in the proposed farming operation. Applicants must possess the character, industry, and ability to carry out the farming or nonfarm enterprise and personally manage and operate the farm. These loans are made only to those individuals, corporations, cooperatives, joint operations, and partnerships which cannot obtain sufficient credit from other sources.



How To Apply: Contact county FmHA office

Whom To Contact: County FmHA office

Printed Information Available: FmHA publication: "Farm Ownership Loans" (PA-62).

Authorizing Legislation: Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, Section 302, Public Law 87-128, 7 U.S.C. 1922.

Administering Agency: FmHA, USDA.

Available Assistance: Guaranteed/insured loans.

Use Restrictions: To buy or enlarge family farms, including any land for nonfarm enterprises. Loans also may be used to construct or repair essential but modest farm dwellings and service buildings, including facilities and structures for nonfarm enterprises; develop domestic water and sewage systems; provide land and water development; conduct pollution control and energy saving practices; establish approved forestry practices; and refinance debts.

Rates and Terms: Interest rate is set periodically, based on the cost of government borrowing, with terms not to exceed 40 years. Maximum direct loan is \$200,000, maximum guaranteed loan is \$300,000. The borrower will be expected to pay off the FmHA debt and graduate to another credit source when able to do so.

Security: Farm ownership loans are secured by a mortgage on the land owned or purchased by the borrower. When making real estate loans to Indians which will be secured by land in trust or restricted status, the mortgage must be reviewed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Appropriation for Fiscal Year 1992: \$555,500,000.

Appropriation for Fiscal Years 1991, 1990, and 1989: 1991 — \$840,500,000; 1990 — \$549,000,000; 1989 — \$819,000,000; 1988 — \$755,000,000.

Obligations Incurred for Fiscal Year 1991: \$422,651,000.

Washington Contact: Administrator, FmHA, USDA, Washington, DC 20250. (202) 690-1533.

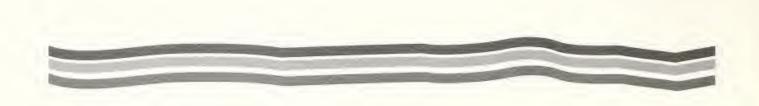
Local Contact: Local FmHA office.

Related Programs: Farm Operating Loans, Property Improvement Loan Insurance—Construction of Nonresidential Farm Structures, and Veterans Farm Loans.

Farm Ownership Loans for Socially Disadvantaged Persons

Nature and Purpose: The farm ownership loan program is meant to assist eligible socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers to become owner-operators of family farms. Direct (insured) loans are made for land purchase only. Guaranteed loans are made for land purchase, development, and other authorized purposes. The loan objectives are accomplished through outreach coupled with extension of credit and supervisory assistance. Socially disadvantaged groups include those who, because of their identity as a member of a group, have been subjected to racial or ethnic prejudice or cultural bias without regard to their individual qualities.

Eligibility Requirements: To be eligible, applicants must be citizens of legal age who have sufficient farm experience or training to assure reasonable prospects of success in the proposed farming operation. Applicants must possess the character, industry, and ability to carry out the farming or



nonfarm enterprise, and personally manage and operate the farm. These loans are made only to those individuals who cannot obtain sufficient credit from other sources.

How To Apply: Contact county FmHA office.

Whom To Contact: County FmHA office.

Printed Information Available: FmHA Publication: "Farm Ownership Loans for Socially Disadvantaged Persons" (PA 1433).

Authorizing Legislation: Sections 617 and 623 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987, P.L. 100-233.

Administering Agency: USDA, FmHA.

Available Assistance: Guaranteed/insured (direct) loans.

Use Restrictions: For purchase or lease of family farms, including any land for recreation, or other nonfarm enterprises, and for essential repairs, construction and developmental purposes, etc.

Rates and Terms: Interest rate is set periodically, based on the cost of government borrowing, with terms not to exceed 40 years. Maximum direct loan is \$200,000, maximum guaranteed loan is \$300,000. The borrower will be expected to graduate to other credit sources when found by FmHA officials to be able to do so.

Security: Farm ownership loans are secured by a mortgage on the land owned or purchased by the borrower. When making real estate loans to Indians which will be secured by land in trust or restricted status, the mortgage must be reviewed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Appropriation for Fiscal Year 1992: \$53,730,000.

Obligations Incurred for Fiscal Year 1991: \$17,287,000.

Washington Contact: Administrator, FmHA, USDA, Washington, DC 20250. (202) 690-1533.

Local Contact: Local FmHA office.

Related Programs: Farm Operating Loans, Veterans Farm Loans, and regular Farm Ownership Loans.

Farm Operating Loan Program

Nature and Purpose: The farm operating loan program is intended to assist eligible farmers and ranchers to successfully operate their annual farm programs to assure a successful family-size farm operation. Loans may be made for purchase of such things as livestock, farm and home equipment, feed, seed, fuel, or hail and other crop insurance. Minor improvements also may be made on buildings and real estate.

Eligibility Requirements: Citizens of legal age who have sufficient farm experience or training to assure reasonable prospects of success in the farming operation. Applicants must possess the character, industry and ability to carry out the farming enterprise and personally manage and operate the farm. Loans are made to those who cannot obtain sufficient credit from other sources. Individuals, corporations, cooperatives, joint operations, and partnerships that will conduct family-size farming or ranching operations may apply.

How To Apply: Contact county FmHA office.

Whom To Contact: County FmHA office.

Printed Information Available: FmHA Publication: "Farm Operating Loans" (PA-1002).



Authorizing Legislation: Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, section 311, P.L. 87-128, 7 U.S.C. 1941.

Administering Agency: FmHA, USDA.

Available Assistance: Guaranteed or insured loans.

Use Restrictions: Funds may be used to pay expenses of conducting family-size farming operations, including the purchase of equipment and livestock; to refinance certain debts; and to develop nonfarm businesses, recreational enterprises, and agricultural operations.

Appropriation for Fiscal Year 1992: \$2,832,140,000.

Appropriations for Fiscal Years 1991, 1990, and 1989: 1991 — \$3,334,000,000; 1990 — \$3,449,000,000; and 1989 — \$3,531,000,000.

Obligations Incurred for Fiscal Year 1991: \$1,530,464,000.

Obligations Incurred for Fiscal Years 1990, 1989, and 1988: 1990 — \$1,627,000,000; 1989 — \$1,735,000,000; and 1988 — \$1,793,000,000.

Washington Contact: Administrator, FmHA, USDA, Washington, DC 20250. (202) 690-1533.

Local Contact: Local FmHA Office.

Related Programs: Farm Ownership Loans, Property Improvement Loan Insurance—Construction of Nonresidential Farm Structures, and Veterans Farm Loans.

Rural Housing Loan Program

Nature and Purpose: The rural housing loan program is meant to assist eligible individual rural residents, farmers, and senior citizens to obtain decent, safe, and sanitary dwellings and related facilities.

Eligibility Requirements: Very-low or low-income Indian families or persons who are without adequate housing and related facilities and who will become the owner-occupant of a home located on a site owned or to be purchased, or on which there is a long-term lease after the loan is closed; or a farm owner without safe, decent, and sanitary housing for his or her own use or for the use of his or her tenants, sharecroppers, farm laborers, or farm manager. Housing must be located in rural areas. A rural area is defined as a locality under 10,000 in population if it is rural in character. Loans may also be made in certain towns under 25,000 in population that have a serious lack of mortgage credit.

How To Apply: County FmHA office or write to FmHA, USDA, Washington, DC 20250.

Whom To Contact: County FmHA office.

Printed Information Available: FmHA Publications: "Home Ownership" (PA-977) and "Home Improvement Loans" (PA-1184).

Authorizing Legislation: Housing Act of 1949, as amended, Public Law 87-70, 42 U.S.C. 1471; and Section 3100, 7 U.S.C. 1933.

Administering Agency: USDA, FmHA.

Available Assistance: Insured and guaranteed loans.



Use Restrictions: To buy, build, repair, or relocate homes and buy minimum adequate sites. Funds may also be used to provide adequate and safe water supply, sewage disposal facilities, storm shelters, and to pay expenses of obtaining plans and loan closing costs. Loans may also be made for such noncosmetic things as to install plumbing, repair a roof, and remove health and safety hazards.

Rates and Terms: Interest rates are established periodically and can be obtained by contacting local FmHA offices. Interest credit may be granted on loans to very-low- or low-income families to reduce the effective rate to as low as 1 percent. Cosigners may be used, and the repayment period may extend up to 38 years. On housing repair loans made under the repair and rehabilitation program, the interest rate varies: 3 percent interest for adjusted incomes of \$7,001 to \$10,000, 2 percent interest for adjusted incomes of \$5,000 to \$7,000, and 1 percent interest for adjusted incomes of not more than \$5,000. Incentive repair loans may be repaid over a period of up to 25 years. For minor repairs to remove health and safety hazards, loans of up to \$15,000 may be advanced at 1 percent interest and repaid up to 20 years. Grants of up to \$5,000 and combination loans/grants are available for eligible senior citizens.

Security: Rural housing loans are generally secured by a real estate mortgage. Loans made on owned or leased land held in trust or restricted status are subject to applicable tribal or Department of the Interior regulations. Loans for regular housing purposes may be made only when the lease is for at least 50 years. In certain instances where small repair loans are involved, the lease may be for a shorter period but in any case, the length of the lease must be 1-1/2 times the repayment period of the loan.

Appropriation for Fiscal Year 1992 — \$1,295,000,000.

Washington Contact: Administrator, FmHA, USDA, Washington, DC 20250. (202) 690-1533

Local Contacts: Consult local phone directory for address and phone number of county FmHA office or write to FmHA, USDA, Washington, DC 20250.

Related Programs: Rural Housing Site Loans. Very Low-Income Housing Repair Loans, Rural Self-Help Housing Technical Assistance, Interest Subsidy-Homes for Lower-Income Families, and Mortgage Insurance Homes in Outlying Areas.

Rural Housing Site Development Loans

Nature and Purpose: Rural housing site development loans are meant to provide adequate sites for housing in rural areas. The land is to be sold as adequate housing sites on a nonprofit basis to families with low to moderate incomes, to cooperative housing groups, and to nonprofit rural rental housing applicants.

Eligibility Requirements: A private nonprofit organization or a public nonprofit organization including a municipal corporation or other corporate agencies of a State or local government. On reservation, the applicant must own or become owner of the building sites even though the land may be in a restricted status.

How To Apply: Contact local FmHA office.

Whom To Contact: Local FmHA office.



Printed Information Available: FmHA Publication: "Rural Housing Site Loans" (PA-1131).

Authorizing Legislation: Housing Act of 1949 as amended, Section 523 and 524 P.L. 90-448 and P.L. 91-152, 42 U.S.C. 1490 (c) and (d).

Administering Agency: FmHA, USDA.

Available Assistance: Insured loans.

Use Restrictions: To buy and develop building sites, including the construction of essential access roads, streets, and utilities and the payment of fees and administrative expenses.

Rates and Terms: Interest rates are established periodically and can be obtained by contacting local FmHA offices. Recipients of site development loans are subject to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. They must agree not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, or national origin by signing Form FmHA 4004, "Nondiscrimination Agreement," before loan closing. The loan must be repaid in 2 years.

Security: Each loan will be secured by a mortgage on the property purchased or improved with the loan.

Appropriations for Fiscal Year 1992: \$600,000

Appropriations for Fiscal Years 1991, 1990 and 1989: \$600,000.

Obligations Incurred for Fiscal Year 1989: \$400,000.

Washington Contact: Administrator, FmHA, USDA, Washington, DC 20250. (202) 690-1533.

Local Contacts: Consult phone directory under Federal Government.

Related Programs: Low- to Moderate-Income Housing Loans; Rural Rental Housing Loans: Mortgage Insurance-Land Development and New Communities; and Nonprofit Housing Sponsor Loans, Planning Projects for Low- and Moderate-Income Families.

Rental and Cooperative Housing Loan Program

Nature and Purpose: The rental and cooperative housing loan program is for building, improving, repairing, or buying rental or cooperatively owned housing that is designed and constructed for occupancy by low- to moderate-income families and senior citizens.

Eligibility Requirements: Consumer cooperatives, and other nonprofit organizations with broadly based memberships. Individuals or organizations operating on a profit basis, including those agreeing to operate on a limited-profit basis. Cooperatives owned, occupied, and managed by eligible low- to moderate-income families.

How To Apply: Contact county FmHA office.

Whom to Contact: County FmHA office.

Printed Information Available: FmHA Publications: Rural Rental Housing (PA-1039) and "Congregate Housing" (PA-1252).

Authorizing Legislation:

Housing Act of 1949 as amended, Sections 515 and 521, 42 U.S.C. 1485, 1490.

Administering Agency: USDA, FmHA.

Available Assistance: Guaranteed/insured loans.

Use Restrictions: To build, improve, repair, or buy rental or cooperatively owned housing that is eco-



nomically designed and constructed for independent living. Loan funds may also be used to purchase land and develop sites including related facilities such as water, sewer, streets, recreation centers, laundry rooms, and landscaping. Also, to develop congregate housing which provides senior citizens or handicapped persons, in good health, the residential accommodations, central dining facilities, related facilities, and supporting services required to afford them a semi-independent life style.

Security: Each loan will be secured in a manner that adequately protects the Government. In most cases the loan will be secured by a real estate mortgage. Loans secured by land held in trust or restricted status are subject to applicable tribal or Department of the Interior regulations. On reservations, the applicant must own or become owner of the building site even though the land may be in a restricted status.

Appropriations for Fiscal Year **1992**: \$573,900,000.

Appropriations for Fiscal Years **1991**, **1990**, *and* **1989**: 1991 — \$553,900,000; 1990 — \$571,900,000; 1989 — \$554,900,000.

Obligations Incurred: Fiscal year 1992 — \$114,470,533; 1991 — \$576,185,201.

Washington Contact: Administrator, FmHA, USDA, Washington, DC 20250. (202) 690-1533.

Local Contacts: Consult phone directory under Federal Government.

Related Programs: Rural Housing Site Loans, Mortgage Insurance Rental Housing and Mortgage Insurance Rental Housing for Low- and Moderate-Income Families, and Market Interest Rate.

Housing Preservation Grant Program

Nature and Purpose: The Housing Preservation Grant (HPG) Program is meant to help very-lowand low-income homeowners repair and rehabilitate their homes in rural areas.

Eligibility Requirements: A State, commonwealth, or trust territory or other political subdivision, or public nonprofit corporation authorized to receive and administer HPG funds; an Indian tribe, band, group, or nation including Alaskan Indians, Aleuts, Eskimos and any Alaskan Native village, of the United States which is considered an eligible recipient under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (P.L. 93-638) or under the State and Local Fiscal Assistance Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-512); a private nonprofit corporation; or a consortium of units of governments and/or private nonprofit organizations.

How To Apply: Contact local FmHA Office or write to FmHA, USDA, Washington, DC 20250.

Printed Information Available: Housing Preservation Grant Program Fact Sheet.

Authorizing Legislation: P.L. 98-181, Section 533 of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended by Section 522 of Title V of the Housing Urban-Rural Recovery Act of 1983.

Administering Agency: FmHA, USDA.

Available Assistance: Grants

Use Restrictions: HPG funds may be used to provide loans, grants, interest reduction payments, or other comparable assistance to eligible recipients for a broad range of repair and rehabilitation activities to remove health and safety hazards or make major repairs needed to improve the general living environment of the occupant. Such repair activities must result in the house meeting local code

standards. Grantees may use up to 20 percent of the HPG funds for program administration.

Appropriations for Fiscal Years 1990, 1991, and 1992: 1990 - \$19,140,000; 1991 - \$23,000,000; 1992 - \$23,000,000.

Washington Contact: Administrator, FmHA, USDA, Washington, DC 20250. (202) 690-1533.

Local Contact: Local FmHA office.

Related Programs: Loans and grants for housing weatherization or other repair and rehabilitation activities. FmHA also makes rural housing loans and rural housing repair loans and grants directly to eligible individual homeowners for repair and rehabilitation of their units.

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC)

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC or the Corporation) was established by Congress with the enactment of the 1980 Amendments to the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501).

The primary purpose of FCICxz is to promote the economic stability of agriculture through a sound system of crop insurance.

Crop insurance is available in all 50 States and Puerto Rico on more than 50 crops, but not all are insurable in every county. Policies for most crops guarantee a specific yield per acre and cover losses on a named-peril basis.

Native American Landlord Right to Indemnity

Assistance Available: Operators leasing land from Native Americans, on a share basis, may insure the Native American's share of the crop if the lease contains terms requiring that the lessee make such arrangements. The lessee is responsible for payment of the premium, and the Corporation is responsible for payment of an indemnity to the Native American lessor to the extent of his or her interest in the crop.

How To Apply: An agreement should be prepared for the Native American lessor by the insurance representative, signed by the lessee, and attached to the lessee's application. This agreement may be executed in connection with an existing contract or application, and must be filed at the service office when the acreage report is filed.

For More Information: Write, Manager, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, USDA, Washington, DC 20250. Telephone: (202) 254-8460.



The President's Initiative on Rural America includes the formation of State Rural Development Councils (SRDC's), which are collaborative partnerships created in each State to assess rural needs and develop long-term strategies to address those needs. Membership on SRDC's includes Federal, State, local, and tribal governments, as well as the private sector and others involved in rural development. The SRDC's work to collectively utilize resources based on mutually identified needs and strategies.

Contact: Governor's Office

Washington Contact: Under Secretary of Agriculture for Small Community and Rural Development, Washington, DC 20250. Telephone: (202) 720-4581.

Rural Development Administration

Water and Waste Disposal Systems for Rural Communities

Objectives: Loan and grant program to provide basic human amenities, alleviate health hazards, and promote the orderly growth of the rural areas of the Nation by meeting the need for new and improved rural water and waste disposal facilities.

Note: This program was formerly operated by the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA). Since the newly created RDA does not yet have its field structure in place, FmHA continues to administer the program.

Applicant Eligibility: Municipalities, counties, and other political subdivisions of a State, such as districts and authorities; associations, cooperatives, and corporations operated on a not-for-profit basis; and Indian tribes on Federal and State reservations and other federally recognized Indian tribes. The service area shall not include any area in any city or town having a population in excess of 10,000 inhabitants according to the latest decennial census of the United States. The applicant must be unable to finance the proposed project from its own resources or through commercial credit at reasonable rates and terms, and must have the legal authority necessary for constructing, operating, and maintaining the proposed facility or service, and for obtaining, giving security for, and repaying the proposed loan. Plans and specifications must be developed to comply with State and local health and pollution regulations and other requirements.

Grants are made only when necessary to reduce the average annual benefitted user charges to a reasonable level. Normally, grants are considered only when the debt service portion of the cost to grant eligible users exceeds the following percent-



ages of median household incomes (MHI) for the applicant service area: 0.5 percent when the MHI of the service area is below the poverty line or below 80 percent of the nonmetropolitan median household income (NMHI) of the State, whichever is higher; 1.0 percent when the MHI of the service area exceeds the 0.5 percent requirements but not more than 100 percent of the NMHI of the State. No FmHA grant funds will be used in any project when the MHI of the service area is above the poverty line and more than 100 percent of the NMHI of the State.

The FmHA grant may not exceed 75 percent of the eligible project development cost when the MHI of the service area is below the poverty line or below 80 percent (whichever is higher) of the State's NMHI. The FmHA grant may not exceed 55 percent when the MHI of the service area exceeds the 75 percent requirements but is not more than 100 percent of the State's NMHI. Assistance is authorized for eligible applicants in rural areas of States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, Pacific Trust Territories, and American Samoa.

Application and Award Process: Preapplication Coordination: Applications from federally recognized Indian tribes are not subject to the review requirements of (1) Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs;" (2) the Departmental regulation, 7 CFR, part 3015, subpart V, and (3) FmHA regulation 1940-J, "Intergovernmental Review of Farmers Home Administration Programs and Activities." An environmental impact assessment is required for this program.

Application Procedure: Preapplication form SF 424, "Application for Federal Assistance," is filed at the local FmHA county or district office. The district office has primary responsibility for making and servicing the loan and grant.

Award Procedure: After the preapplication has been reviewed by the FmHA district director, it is forwarded to the FmHA State director for review

and processing instructions. Following loan/grant approval and completion of application processing requirements, funds are made available to FmHA district director for delivery.

Deadlines: None.

Range of Approval/Disapproval Time: 90 to 180 days.

Appeals: If an application is rejected, the reasons for rejection are fully stated in a letter to the applicant. The applicant may request an administrative review of the decision pursuant to FmHA regulations, 7 CFR Part 1900-B.

Renewals: Not applicable.

Whom To Contact: Farmers Home Administration county, district, or State office.

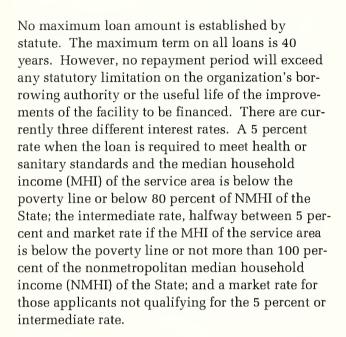
Printed Information Available: "Water and Waste Disposal Loans and Grants" (PA-1203).

Authorizing Legislation: Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, Section 306; P.L. 87-128; 7 U.S.C. 1926.

Administering Agency: FmHA, USDA.

Available Assistance: Development Grants; Direct Loans; Guaranteed Loans.

Uses and Use Restrictions: Funds may be used for the installation, repair, improvement or expansion of a rural water facility including distribution lines, well pumping facilities and costs related thereto, and the installation, repair, improvement, or expansion of a rural waste disposal facility including the collection and treatment of sanitary, storm, and solid wastes. Grant funds may not be used to pay interest on loans, operations, and maintenance costs, or to acquire or refinance an existing system.



Joint Funds: This program is considered suitable for joint funding such as commercial/private lenders, Federal agencies, State and local governments.

Fiscal Year 1992 Appropriation: Direct Loans — \$600,000,000; Guaranteed Loans — 35,000,000; Grants — \$350,000,000.

Appropriation for Fiscal Year 1991, 1990, and 1989: 1991: Loans — \$500,000,000; Grants — \$300,000,000; 1990: Loans — \$350,293,000; Grants — \$207,700,000; 1989: Loans — \$330,380,000; Grants — \$109,395,000.

Obligations Incurred: Fiscal year 1991: Loans — \$500,000,000; Grants — \$302,395,000; fiscal year 1990: Loans — \$350,292,300; Grants — \$207,988,636.

Headquarters Office: Administrator, RDA, USDA, Washington, DC 20250. (202) 690-1533.

Information Contacts: Consult your local telephone directory for FmHA district or State office phone numbers.

Related Programs: Economic Development— Grants and Loans for Public Works; Community Development Block Grants/Entitlement Grants; Construction Grants for Wastewater Treatment Works.

Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Loans

Objectives: To provide loan assistance to sponsoring local organizations in authorized watershed areas for share of cost for works of improvement.

Uses and Use Restrictions: Loan funds may be used to help local sponsors provide the local share of the cost of watershed works of improvement for flood prevention, irrigation, drainage, water quality management, sedimentation control, fish and wildlife development, public-water-based recreation, and water storage and related costs. The total amount of watershed loans outstanding in any one watershed cannot exceed \$10,000,000.

Eligibility Requirements: To be eligible for a watershed loan an applicant must be a sponsoring local organization, such as a municipal corporation, soil and water conservation district, or other organization not operated for profit in the approved watershed project, and must have authority under State law to obtain, give security, and raise revenues to repay the loan and to operate and maintain the facilities to be financed with the loan. Assistance is authorized for eligible applicants in approved watershed areas in States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, Pacific Trust Territories, and American Samoa.

Beneficiary Eligibility: Same as applicant eligibility.



Application and Award Process: Preapplication Coordination: Applications are subject to State intergovernmental review. The standard application forms as furnished by the Federal agency and required by OMB Circular No. A-102 must be used for this program. An environmental impact assessment is required for this program.

Application Procedure: Preapplication Form SF 424, "Application for Federal Assistance," is filed at the county or district FmHA office from which assistance may be obtained.

Award Procedure: After the preapplication has been reviewed by the district director, it is forwarded to the FmHA State director for review and processing instructions. Following review by the State director, the applicant is notified about eligibility, availability of funds, and if an application should be filed. Upon favorable review and approval of a complete application package, funds are made available to the district FmHA director for delivery. Notification of the awards must be made to the designated State central information reception agency in accordance with Treasury Circular 1082.

Information Contacts: Information regarding this program may be obtained from FmHA State, county, or district office serving the local area.

Printed Information Available: FmHA Publication: "Watershed Loans" (PA-406).

Authorization: Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, as amended; P.L. 83-566; Section 8, 16 U.S.C. 1006a and Flood Control Act, as amended; P.L. 78-534.

Federal Agency: FmHA, USDA.

Available Assistance: Assistance may be obtained form the State, district, and county office serving the local area.

Use Restriction: See item (1) above.

Appropriation for Fiscal Year 1991: \$4,000,000.

Appropriations for Fiscal Years 1990, 1989, and 1988: 1989 — \$8,000,000: 1988 — \$8,000,000: 1990 — \$4,000,000.

Obligations Incurred: 1989 — \$0: 1989 — \$0: 1990 — \$3,649,000.

Washington Contact: Director, Community Facilities Loan Division, FmHA, USDA. (202) 720-1490

Local Contacts: Consult your local telephone directory for FmHA county or district office phone number.

Related Programs: Irrigation, Drainage, and Other Soil and Water Conservation Loans; Soil and Water Loans; Community Facilities Loans; Soil and Water Conservation; Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention; River Basin Surveys and Investigations.

Resource Conservation and Development Loans

Objectives: To provide loan assistance to local sponsoring agencies in authorized areas where acceleration of program of resource conservation, development, and utilization will increase economic opportunities for local people.

Types of Assistance: Guaranteed/Insured Loans.

Use and Use Restrictions: Loan funds may be used for (1) rural community public outdoor-oriented, water-based recreational facilities; (2) soil and water development, conservation, control, and use facilities; (3) shift-in-land-use facilities; (4) community water storage facilities; and (5) special-purpose equipment to carry out the above. Project must be located in an authorized Resource Conser-

vation and Development (RC&D) area. A loan for a single RC&D measure cannot exceed \$500,000.

Eligibility Requirements: Public agencies and local nonprofit corporations in authorized RC&D areas may be eligible for loan assistance provided they are a sponsor of the RC&D measure for which a loan is requested and which is included in the RC&D project plan; have authority to borrow funds, repay the loan, and pledge security for the loan and to operate the facilities or services provided; and are financially sound and organized and managed to be able to provide efficient service. Assistance authorized for eligible applicants in approved RC&D areas in States, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

Beneficiary Eligibility: Same as applicant eligibility.

Application and Award Process: Preapplication Coordination: Applications are subject to State intergovernmental review. The standard application forms as furnished by the Federal agency and required by OMB Circular No. A-102 must be used for this program. An informal preapplication conference is recommended. An environmental impact assessment is required for this program.

Application Procedure: Preapplication Form SF 424, "Application for Federal Assistance," is filed at the County or district FmHA office from which assistance may obtained.

Award Procedure: After the preapplication has been reviewed by the district director, it is forwarded to the FmHA State director for review and processing instructions. Following review by the State director, the applicant is notified about eligibility, availability of funds, and if an application should be filed. Upon favorable review and approval of a complete application package, funds are made available to the district FmHA director for delivery. Notification of the awards must be made to the des-

ignated State central information reception agency in accordance with Treasury Circular 1082.

Information Contacts: Information regarding this program may be obtained from FmHA State, district, or county offices serving the local areas.

Printed Information Available: FmHA Publication: "Loans for Resource Conservation and Development Loans" (PA-799).

Authorization: Food and Agriculture Act of 1962; P.L. 87-703; 1011 (Supp. V) 1959-63; 7 U.S.C. 1010.

Federal Agency: Farmers Home Administration, Department of Agriculture.

Available Assistance: Assistance may be obtained from the State, district, and county office serving the local area.

Appropriation for Fiscal Year 1991: \$599,993.

Appropriations for Fiscal Years **1989**, **1988**, **and 1990**: 1989 — \$600,000: 1988 — \$1,207,000: 1990 — \$600,000.

Obligations Incurred: 1989 — \$0: 1988 — \$0: 1990 — \$72,300.

Washington Contact: Director, Community Facilities Loan Division, FmHA, USDA. (202) 720-1490.

Local Contacts: Consult your local telephone directory for FmHA county or district office phone number.

Related Programs: Agricultural Conservation Program; Grazing Association Loans; Irrigation,
Drainage, and Other Soil and Water Conservation
Loan; Community Facilities Loans; Cooperative
Extension Service; Resource Conservation and Development; Soil and Water Conservation; Tennessee
Valley Region-General Resources Development.

Industrial Development Grants

Objectives: To finance and facilitate the development of small and emerging private business enterprises in rural areas or cities of up to 50,000 population with priority to applications for projects in open country, rural communities and towns of 25,000 and smaller, and economically depressed communities.

Types of Assistance: Project grants.

Use and Use Restrictions: Grant funds may be used to finance the acquisition and development of land and the construction, conversion, enlargement, repair, or modernization of building plants, machinery, equipment, access streets and roads, parking areas, transportation serving the site, utility extensions, necessary water supply and waste disposal facilities, technical assistance, and startup operating costs and working capital.

Joint Funding: This program is considered suitable for joint funding with closely related Federal financial assistance programs in accordance with the provision of OMB Circular No. A-111. For programs that are not identified as suitable for joint funding, the applicant may consult the headquarters or field office of the appropriate funding agency for further information on statutory or other restrictions involved.

Eligibility Requirements:

Applicant Eligibility: Applicants eligible for grants are private nonprofit corporations and public bodies serving rural areas such as States, counties, cities, townships, and incorporated towns and villages, boroughs, authorities, districts, and Indian tribes on Federal and State reservations and other federally recognized Indian tribal groups which will serve rural areas. "Rural area" for this program is defined as all territory of a State, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Trust Territory of

the Pacific Islands, that is not within the outer boundary of any city having a population of 50,000 or more, according to the latest decennial census of the United States. Priority for such grants shall be given to areas having a population of not more than 25,000.

Beneficiary Eligibility: Eligibility for this grant assistance is limited to private nonprofit corporations and public bodies in rural areas, and villages, towns, and cities with not more than 50,000 population. Ultimate beneficiaries are private business enterprises.

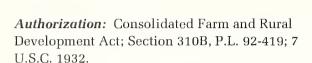
Application and Award Process: Preapplication Coordination: Applications are subject to State intergovernmental review requirements. The standard application form—SF 424 "Application for Federal Assistance"—as furnished by the Federal agency and required by OMB Circular No. A-102 and A-110 must be used for this program. An environmental impact assessment is required for this program.

Application Procedure: Form SF 424, "Application for Federal Assistance," is filed at the FmHA county or district office.

Award Procedure: After the preapplication has been reviewed by the district director it is forwarded to the FmHA State director for review and processing instructions. Following review by the State director, the applicant is notified about eligibility, availability of funds, and if an application should be filed. Upon favorable review and approval of a complete application package, funds are made available to the district director for final delivery.

Information Contacts: Information regarding this program may be obtained from the FmHA State, county, or district office serving the local area.

Printed Information: None available.



Federal Agency: FmHA, USDA.

Available Assistance: Assistance may be obtained from the State, district, and county offices serving the local area.

Use Restrictions: Project must benefit small and emerging private business enterprises.

Appropriation for Fiscal Year 1992: \$20,750,000.

Appropriations for Fiscal Years 1991, 1990, and 1989: 1991 — \$20,750,000; 1990 — \$16,404,000 (\$16,500,000 less sequestration of \$96,000); 1989 — \$6,500,000.

Obligations Incurred: Fiscal Year 1989 — \$6,500,000; 1990 — \$16,406,000; 1991 — \$20,750,000.

Washington Contact: Director, Community Facilities Division, FmHA, USDA. (202) 720-1490.

Local Contacts: Consult your local telephone directory for FmHA county or district office phone number.

Related Programs: Business and Industrial Loans; Community Facility Loans.

Community Facility Loans

Objectives: To construct, enlarge, extend, or otherwise improve community facilities providing essential services to rural residents.

Use and Use Restrictions: Community facilities include but are not limited to those providing or supporting overall community development such

as fire and rescue services, transportation, traffic control, community, social, cultural, health, and recreational benefits: industrial park sites, access ways, and utility extensions. All facilities financed in whole or in part with FmHA funds shall be for public use.

Eligibility Requirements: Assistance is authorized for eligible applicants in rural areas of the United States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Eligible to apply are: (1) Indian tribes of Federal and State reservations and other federally recognized Indian tribes and existing private corporations which are operated on a not-for-profit basis, have or will have the legal authority necessary for constructing and maintaining the proposed facility or service and for obtaining and giving security for, and repaying the loan, and are unable to finance the proposed project from their own resources or through commercial credit at reasonable rates and terms. (2) State agencies, political and quasipolitical subdivisions of States and associations, including corporations operated on a not-for-profit basis.

Projects must be located in open country, rural towns, and villages of not more than 20,000 population.

Application and Award Process: Preapplication Coordination: Applications are subject to State and areawide clearinghouses' review pursuant to procedures in Part I, Attachment A of OMB Circular No. 95 (revised). The standard application forms as furnished by the Federal agency and required by OMB Circular No. A-102 must be used for this program. An environmental impact assessment is required for this program.

Application Procedure: Preapplication Form SF 424, "Application for Federal Assistance," is filed at the local FmHA county or district office from which assistance may be obtained.



Award Procedure: After the preapplication has been reviewed by the FmHA district director, it is forwarded to the FmHA State director for review and processing instructions. Following review by the State director, the applicant is notified about eligibility, availability of funds and if an application should be filed. Upon completion of application processing requirements and approval by the State director, funds are made available to the FmHA district director for delivery. Notification of awards must be made to the designated State central information reception agency in accordance with Treasury Circular 1082.

Whom To Contact: Interested persons or applicants may contact the county supervisor or the district director serving this area.

Printed Information Available: FmHA Publication: "Community Facility Loans" (PA-1100).

Authorizing Legislation: Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, Section 306; P.L. 87-128; 7 U.S.C. 1926.

Administering Agency: FmHA, USDA.

Available Assistance: Assistance is available from State, district, and county office serving the local area.

Use Restrictions: All facilities shall be available for public use.

Appropriation for Fiscal Year 1992: Direct Loans — \$100,000,000; Guaranteed Loans — \$25,000,000.

Appropriations for Fiscal Years 1991, 1990, and 1989: Direct Loans 1991 — \$100,000,000; 1990 — \$94,381,000; and 1989 — \$95,700,000. Guaranteed Loans — 1991 — \$25,000,000; 1990 — \$23,829,000; 1989 — 0.

Direct Obligations Incurred: 1991 — \$100,000,000; 1990 — \$94,381,000; 1989 — \$95,700,000.

Guaranteed Obligations Incurred: 1991 — \$25,000,000; 1990 — \$13,599,300.

Washington Contact: Director, Community Facilities Loan Division, FmHA, USDA. (202) 720-1490

Local Contacts: Consult your local telephone directory for FmHA county or district office phone numbers.

Related Programs: Industrial Development Grants; Cooperative Forestry Assistance; Cooperative Extension Service; Indian Loan-Economic Development.

Business and Industrial Loans Program

Nature and Purpose: To assist public, private, or cooperative organizations (profit or nonprofit), Indian tribes, or individuals in rural areas in obtaining "quality" loans from non-FmHA lenders for the purpose of improving, developing, or financing business, industry, and employment and improving the economic and environmental climate, including pollution abatement and control, in rural communities. The term "quality" refers to the fact that another lending entity has found the quality of an application to be worthwhile. The following paragraph describes the other potential lending entities.

Lender Eligibility Requirements: An eligible lender is any federal- or State-chartered bank, Farm Credit Bank, other Farm Credit System institution with direct lending authority, bank for cooperatives, saving and loan association, building and loan association, or mortgage company that is part of a bank-holding company. These entities must be subject to credit examinations and supervision by

either an agency of the United States or a State. Eligible lenders may also include credit unions that are subject to credit examination and supervision by either the National Credit Union Administration or a State agency or an insurance company that is regulated by a State or National insurance regulatory agency.

Applicant Eligibility Requirements: An applicant may be a cooperative, corporation, partnership, trust, or other legal entity organized and operated on a profit or nonprofit basis; an Indian tribe; a municipality, county, or other political subdivision of a State; or an individual in rural areas. Applicants must be located in one of the 50 States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. They also must be in areas other than cities having a population of 50,000 or more and immediately adjacent to urbanized and urbanizing areas with a population density of more than 100 persons per square mile.

Preference is to be given to those projects in areas other than cities having population of more than 25,000 and, on applications of equal priority, to veterans. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or reside in the United States after being legally admitted for permanent residence and, if a corporation, 51 percent ownership must be held by U.S. citizens or persons who reside in the United States after being legally admitted for permanent residence.

Credentials/documentation: Evidence of legal capacity, economic feasibility, and financial responsibility relative to the activity for which assistance is requested.

Application and Award Process: Preapplication Coordination: This program is eligible for coverage under Executive Order (EO) 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs." An applicant should consult the State official designated as the single point of contact for more information on the State process required to be followed in applying for assistance, if the State has selected the program for review. To obtain the name of the State official. applicants should contact the local county or State FmHA office. All preapplication letters must be coordinated fully with appropriate State agencies in keeping with the above-named EO 12372 in a manner that will assure maximum support of the State's strategies for development of its rural areas. The standard application form—Form 449-1, "Application for Loan and Guarantee (Business and Industry)"—as furnished by the FmHA and required by OMB Circular No. A-102, must be used for this program. An environmental assessment is required and an environmental impact statement may be required for this program.

Application Procedure: Form FmHA 449.1 (see preceding paragraph) is used for guaranteed loans and filed at the FmHA State office.

Award Procedure: Applications are forwarded to the FmHA State director for review and final approval, if final approval is within his or her approval authority. National FmHA office concurrence is required on all loans and recommendations made to the State Director on loans whose total is in excess of his or her loan approval authority.

Range of Approval/Disapproval Time: 60 - 120 days.

Appeals: If an application is rejected, the reasons for rejection are fully stated in a letter to the potential lender and applicant. The lender and applicant may jointly request a review of the decision from the National Appeals Staff, provided the request is in writing and accompanied by supporting information and documentation with a copy of such material concurrently submitted to the State director. The requestor and State director are notified of the decision by the National Appeals Staff.



Renewals: Not applicable.

Whom To Contact: Regional or local office: Consult your local telephone directory for FmHA county office phone number. If there is no listing, get in touch with appropriate FmHA State office listed in Appendix IV of the "Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance," found in most libraries and many U.S. government offices.

Headquarters Office: Administrator, FmHA, USDA, Washington, DC 20250. (202) 690-1533.

Printed Information Available: FmHA Publication: "Regulations, Guidelines, and Literature": 7 CFR Part 1980-A, Section 1980.1 through 1980.100, and 1980-E, Section 1980.401 through 1980.500; "Business and Industrial Loans" (PA-1101); and "Facts for Lenders" (PA-1142).

Authorizing Legislation: Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, as amended, Section 310 B, P.L. 92-419; 7 U.S.C. 1932.

Appropriations in 1992: \$100,000,000.

Appropriations for Fiscal Years **1991, 1990, and 1989:** 1991 — \$100,000,000; 1990 — \$95,018,000; 1989 — \$95,700,000.

Obligations Incurred: Fiscal year 1991 — \$99,955,320; 1990 — \$88,472,600; 1989 — \$95,676,000.

Washington Contacts: Headquarters Office: Administrator, FmHA, USDA, Washington, DC 20250. (202) 690-1533.

Local Contacts: Regional or local office: Consult your local telephone directory for FmHA county office phone number. If there is no listing, get in touch with appropriate FmHA State office listed in

Appendix IV of the "Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance," found in most libraries and many U.S. government offices.

Intermediary Relending Program

Nature and Purpose: To finance loans for business facilities and community development projects in rural areas through loans made by the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) to intermediary organizations that establish revolving loan programs.

Applicant Eligibility Requirements: Intermediaries may be private nonprofit corporations, public agencies, Indian groups (Indian tribes on a Federal or State reservation or other federally recognized tribal groups), or cooperatives. At least 51 percent of the owners or members of both intermediaries and ultimate recipients must be citizens of the United States or reside in the United States after being legally admitted for permanent residence.

Credentials/documentation: Intermediaries must have the legal authority to carry out the proposed loan purposes and to obtain, give security for, and repay the proposed loan. Intermediaries must have a proven record of successfully assisting rural business and industry. Normally, this should include recent experience in making and servicing commercial loans.

Application and Award Process: Applications are accepted on a continuous basis, with a quarterly competition for available funds. There is no preapplication process. Complete applications include Form FmHA 1948-1—"Application for Loan (Intermediary Relending Program)"—a narrative work plan, and other material as described in section 1948.122 of FmHA Instruction 1948-C (7 CFR 1948, subpart C). Organizations interested in making an

IRP loan to potential borrowers must submit their application for review and comment to their State and local officials for intergovernmental consultation, as spelled out in Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental review of Federal Programs."

Application Procedure: Applications are filed with the Business and Industry Division in the national FmHA (Headquarters) office. After a brief review, most applications are forwarded to the appropriate State office of FmHA with a delegation of authority to review, process, and approve the application, subject to availability of funds. The State office then determines eligibility and priority score and works with the proposed intermediary to complete any revisions or additional documentation that may be needed.

Award Procedure: Each quarter of the fiscal year the National Office ranks the applications on hand at the beginning of the quarter according to priority score and allocates a portion of the year's funding authority to the highest ranking applications. Once funds have been allocated to an application, the State director (or other designee of the Administrator) may give final approval to the proposed loan.

Range of Approval/Disapproval Time: 30 - 360 days.

Appeals: If an application is rejected, the reasons for rejection are fully stated. The applicant may request a review of the decision by the National Appeals Staff.

Renewals: Not applicable.

Whom To Contact: Business and Industry Division in FmHA Headquarters Office. (202) 690-4100

Headquarters Office: Administrator, FmHA, USDA, Washington, DC 20250 Printed Information Available: FmHA Instruction 1948-C, "Intermediary Relending Program" and FmHA Instruction 1951-R, "Rural Development Loan Servicing."

Authorizing Legislation: Food Security Act of 1985, public law 99-198, as amended, section 1323 (b)(2)(C).

Appropriations in FY 1992: \$32,5000,000

Appropriations for Fiscal Years **1991**, **1990**, *and* **1989**: 1991 - \$32,5000,000; 1990 - \$19,050,000; 1989 - \$13,626,000.

Obligations Incurred: Fiscal year 1991 - \$32,499,540; 1990 - \$19,050,000; 1989 - \$13,626,000.

Washington Contact: Headquarters Office: Business and Industry Division, FmHA, USDA, Washington, DC 20250. Telephone: (202) 690-4100.

Local Contacts: County or district offices of FmHA can provide copies of the regulations but have had little or no training in the program. Some State offices have knowledge of and experience with the program. The primary contact for this program is the Headquarters Office.

The Rural Electrification Administration (REA) makes long-term, interest-bearing loans, and guarantees loans made by others for more than 900 electric and 1,000 telephone systems to finance electric and telephone facilities in rural areas.

REA's direct loans bear interest at a standard rate of 5 percent. Exceptions to the 5 percent rate may be approved at the discretion of the REA administrator in special cases, such as extreme hardship.

REA's guaranteed loans provide financing for electric and telephone facilities from non-REA sources at the Government cost of money plus an administrative fee. Guaranteed loans may be obtained from any legally organized lending agency qualified to make, hold, and service the loan. The Federal Financing Bank, an arm of the Treasury, makes the bulk of loans backed by REA's guarantee.

Electric program loans may be made to cooperative-type organizations, public utility districts, and municipalities. Telephone program loans may be made to companies, cooperatives, and public bodies, as well as nonprofit, limited-dividend, or mutual associations. The loans finance the improvement, expansion, and construction of electric and telephone lines, facilities, or systems to furnish and improve telephone service in rural areas.

The REA borrowers' "Report on Compliance and Participation" is required to be submitted annually to denote compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975.

In addition to the programs outlined above, REA administers a special Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program. The programs are described in detail below.

Many REA electric and telephone borrowers serve American Indians and Alaska Natives who reside in the borrowers' service areas but these borrowers are not operated under tribal authority.

Rural Electrification Administration (REA)

Rural Electrification Loan Program

Assistance Available: Long-term loans are available to rural electric cooperatives, public utility districts, power companies, municipalities, and other qualified power suppliers for the purpose of providing central station electric service on a continuing basis in rural areas. "Rural area" is defined as any area of the United States and territories not included within the boundaries of a community with a population in excess of 1,500 inhabitants.

How To Apply: A resolution by the board of directors of the borrowing organization should be submitted to the REA, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Washington, DC 20250.

For More Information: Director, Legislative and Public Affairs Staff, REAdministration, USDA, Washington, DC 20250. (202) 382-1255

The following 16 utilities with American Indian or Alaska Native consumers obtained REA approval for loans for rural electric development in fiscal years 1991 and 1992:

Kotzebue Electric Association; Kotzebue, Alaska; amount: \$2,349,000; 65 percent of consumers are Eskimo.

Nushagak Electric Cooperative; Dillingham, Alaska; amount: \$848,000; 54 percent of consumers are Eskimo.

Beltrami Electric Cooperative; Bemidji, Minnesota; amount: \$3,894,000; 15 percent of consumers are from the Red Lake Indian Reservation.

Carlton County Cooperative Power Association; Kettle River, Minnesota; amount \$1,786,000; about 3 percent of consumers are from the Fond du Lac Indian Reservation.

Minnesota Valley Cooperative Light & Power Association; Montevideo, Minnesota; amount: \$2,855,000; less than 1 percent of consumers are from the Upper Sioux Community Indian Reservation.

The Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative; Jordan, Minnesota; amount: \$2,310,000; less than 1 percent of consumers are from the Midwakaton Sioux Community Reservation.

Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc.; Wheaton, Minnesota; amount: \$1,220,000; about 3 percent of consumers are from the Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Reservation.

Leach Lake Indian Reservation; Valley Electric Cooperative, Inc.; Glasgow, Montana; amount: \$733,000; 16 percent of consumers are from the Fort Peck Indian Reservation.

Northern Electric Cooperative; Opheim, Montana; amount: \$540,000; about 3 percent of consumers are from the Fort Peck Indian Reservation.

Sheridan Electric Cooperative; Medicine Lake, Montana; amount: \$1,445,000; about 7 percent of consumers are from the Fort Peck Indian Reservation.

Valley Electric Cooperative; Glasgow, Montana; amount: \$733,000; about 16 percent of consumers are from the Fort Peck Indian Reservation.

North Central Electric Cooperative, Inc.; Bottineau, North Dakota; amount: \$3,543,000; 24 percent of consumers are from the Turtle Mountain Indian Reservation.

Sheyenne Valley Electric Cooperative; Finley, North Dakota; amount: \$2,351,000 14 percent of consumers are from the Fort Totten Indian Reservation.

LaCreek Electric Association, Inc.; Martin, South Dakota; amount: \$1,884,000; 60 percent of consumers are from the Rosebud Indian Reservation or the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

Lake Region Electric Association, Inc.; Webster, South Dakota; amount: \$1,683,000; 7 percent of consumers are from the Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Reservation.

Meanwhile, the Wild Rice Electric Cooperative of Mahnomen, Minnesota received an guaranteed loan of \$300,000 through REA and the Federal Financing Bank. About 1 percent of this cooperative's consumers are from the White Earth Indian Reservation.

In addition, the following six utility companies

with Native American consumers received REA advances for work on electric power development in fiscal 1991:

Navajo Tribal Utility Authority; Fort Defiance, Arizona; amount: \$3,315,500; 100 percent of consumers from Navajo Indian Reservation.

The Taos Pueblo Tribe; New Mexico; amount: \$408,000; 3 percent of consumers from reservation.

The Southern Ute Reservation, Colorado; amount: \$2,444,000; 4 percent of consumers from reservation.

Earlier, in fiscal year 1989, the following utilities, primarily servicing American Indians and Alaskan Natives and operating under tribal authority, received electric development loan funds:

Metlakatla Power & Light; Metlakatla, Alaska; amount: \$109,000.

Navajo Tribal Utility Authority; Fort Defiance, Arizona; amount: \$2,187,000.

Papago Tribal Utility Authority; Sells, Arizona; amount: \$1,233,000.

The Tinglet-Haida Regional Electric Authority, Auke Bay, Alaska, continues to benefit from its REA loan, final advance of funds having been completed in FY 1988.

Rural Telephone Loan Program

Assistance Available: Long-term loans are available to rural telephone cooperatives or companies, or public bodies as well as nonprofit, limited dividend, or mutual associations, for the purpose of providing telephone service on a continuing basis in rural areas. "Rural area" is defined as "any area of the United States and territories not included within the boundaries of any incorporated or unincorporated city, village, or borough having a population in excess of 1,500 inhabitants." However, the REA Administrator can authorize financing for nonrural telephone facilities under certain conditions.



How To Apply: REA Form 490 (Application for Telephone Loan or Loan Guarantee) should be submitted by the borrowing organization to: REA, USDA, Washington, DC 20250.

For More Information: Director, Legislative and Public Affairs Staff, REA, USDA, Washington, DC 20250. (202) 382-1255

In fiscal year 1991, the Papago Tribal Utility Authority, Sells, Arizona, received an advance of \$16,454 for telephone development; about 94 percent of the consumers are from the Tohono O'odham Indian Reservation.

In fiscal year 1992, Gila River Telecom., Inc. Sacaton, Arizona, received an REA loan for \$9,508,800. Its consumers are all from the Pima Indian Tribe.

About 3 years ago, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority, Eagle Butte, South Dakota, received a telephone development loan for \$841,000.

Rural Telephone Bank Loan Program

Assistance Available: Supplemental long-term loans are available for rural telephone systems eligible for financing from REA. Bank ownership is shared by the Federal Government and the bank's borrowers. Loans bear interest at the bank's cost of money.

How To Apply: Corporations and public bodies are eligible to borrow from the bank if they have received a telephone loan or loan commitment from the Rural Electrification Administration or have been certified by REA to receive such a loan.

For More Information: Director, Legislative and Public Affairs Staff, REA, USDA, Washington, DC 20250. (202) 382-1255

Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program

Assistance Available: Ten-year loans and grants are available for rural electric and telephone systems at zero interest to promote rural economic development and job creation. The special program was authorized by Congress. Loans are made primarily to electric and telephone systems which borrow from REA, but also to public utility districts, municipal systems, and private utilities which have REA loans outstanding. Loan proceeds can be passed on by the REA borrower to a third party entity for use in rural development.

One loan was approved by REA in Fiscal Year 1990-91 to the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, ND. Previous loans were approved to non-Indian entities electric and telephone borrowers for projects including business, incubators, manufacturing, expansion of community services, model agricultural demonstration programs, industrial parks, etc.

How to Apply: REA borrows should submit an application for Federal Assistance (Sf 424) to the Rural Electrification Administration. It should include a board resolution from the borrowing organization and a business plan for the proposed rural development project.

For More Information: Rural Development Coordinator, REA, USDA, Washington, D.C. 20250. (202) 382-9552

On May 20, 1991, the North Central Electric Cooperative, Inc., Bottineau, North Dakota, received an REA rural development loan of \$100,000, for use by the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa to complete expansion of data entry business.

Earlier, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority was selected for a zero interest loan, in 1989, under the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program. The proposed loan in the amount of \$100,000 will beused to expand the operations of a tribal business venture to promote rural economic developments in the authority's service area.









